

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

**Second Series**

**Volume II, 1957**

*23rd May to 31st May, 1957)*



**FIRST SESSION, 1957**

*(Vol. II contains Nos. 11 to 17)*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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**LOK SABHA**

Friday, 31st May, 1957

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Damage to Rabi Crops

{ Shri Shree Narayan Das +  
\*678. { Shrimati Tarkeshwari  
{ Sinha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether any assessment as to the extent of damage caused to rabi crops by the recent heavy rains accompanied by hailstorm has been made, and

(b) if so, the extent of loss sustained by different States and centrally administered territories?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b) No damage has been reported from Andhra, Bombay, Kerala, Madras, Manipur, Tripura and Andaman and Nicobars. The States of Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and the Union Territory of Delhi have reported some damages, but they are not of a widespread character. All these States, except Delhi have made only preliminary assessment of damages. In parts of Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh, damage has been larger, but assessment reports have not been received. Reports of the assessment on damage have not so far been received from the State Governments of Mysore, Orissa, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir and

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the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh

If you will permit me, Sir, I shall give briefly the information available with us so far as relief to the people affected by the damage to crops is concerned. In Bihar, we have given a ways and means advance of Rs 1 crore. In Madhya Pradesh, relief by way of suspension and remission of land revenue for 1956-57 is being given. Relief already granted by way of suspension is Rs 25,08,196/98 nP, remission is Rs 1,54,204/59 nP. Suspension under consideration is Rs 8,57,306/32 nP and the remission under consideration is Rs 9,05,448/94 nP. Relief works are to be done at a cost of Rs 34,100 m. Satna and Sidhi districts of Rewa division.

In Punjab, cent per cent remission, in villages which have been affected to the extent of more than 50 per cent damage to the crops, is given. Between 25 and 30 per cent damage, 75 per cent remission is granted. Rs 6 lakhs as taccavi and Rs 20,000 as gratuitous relief have been sanctioned. Suspension of taccavi instalments and cheap gram shops have also been resorted to.

In Rajasthan, collection of land revenue has been suspended wherever there has been affliction. Test relief works, such as village roads, digging of nadis etc., have been started. Gratuitous relief is also being paid to those who cannot earn their living from relief works on account of physical infirmity and disability. A sum of Rs 12,500 has been provided for this purpose. Taccavi loans to the extent of Rs 2,00,000 for purchase of seeds, bullocks, fodder and agricultural implements have been sanctioned.

UP Gratuitous relief of Rs 1,57,000; loans to agriculturists, Rs 16,35,000;

relief works, Rs 25,000 Besides, in areas sustaining damage amounting to eight annas and over in a rupee, realisation of land revenue has been suspended Remission will be granted after detailed enquiries about the extent of remission necessary have been completed

So far as Delhi is concerned, fair price foodgrains shops have been opened Remission of land revenue has also been decided upon Recovery of all taccavi instalment dues has been postponed A sum of Rs 5 lakhs is being distributed as fodder and seed taccavi Another sum

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not going to allow further It is a lengthy statement

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There is only one more item Another sum of Rs 25,000 has also been sanctioned Rs 15,000 has been given from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and another sum of Rs 10,000 from IPFT for distress relief in the affected areas has been given

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon Ministers want to make a long statement of this kind, they may intimate to me and I shall allow time These are matters regarding which, the Government right like to make known to the people from time to time what exact the measures or relief are being adopted But the Question Hour is not the proper time for this Next question

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** One question, Sir

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** It is good to know that all these measures have been adopted and monies sanctioned I would like to know to what extent they have been implemented What is the number of shops that have been opened in the affected areas?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Whatever the recommendations of the State Governments are so far as these matters are concerned in the affected areas, they

are generally discussed and considered most sympathetically and adequate relief is given.

**Pandit B. N. Tiwari:** May I know whether realisation of rent has also been stopped?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** In many places it has been done I could not say where it has been done in Bihar In many places it has been remitted, not merely suspended.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** The hon. Minister said that assessment report has not been received from Bihar. But at the same time he said that the Government have advanced about Rs 10 million to the Government of Bihar May I know on what basis that advance was made, if no assessment report had been received

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** So far as we are concerned, we sanctioned them a block advance of Rs 1 crore The State Government have not sent us the final estimate of the losses, but none-the-less it does not mean that the State Government undertakes no schemes of relief The State Government is going ahead with relief schemes

**Shri M. E. Krishna:** Is it not a fact that heavy damage has been caused to the crops in Telangana part of Andhra Pradesh and if so what assistance has been given, either by the State or the Central Government

**Shri A. P. Jain:** No damage has been reported from Andhra

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Which area of Bihar was affected by hailstorms most and may I know whether any relief is being given to that area or not?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** A number of districts were affected and among those which I visited was Patna, part of Monghyr and part of Bhagalpur and relief is being given everywhere.

**Shri B. K. Galkwad:** Are Government aware that due to hail storms

the crop of onions has been damaged in Nasik district?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** No report of any damage there has been received, I believe.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** Are Government aware of the fact that the rabi crop has been damaged due to rust in Bombay State?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** It may have been to a very small extent. But no damage has been reported by the Bombay Government.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** May I explain?

It is not necessary or incumbent on the State Governments to report the smallest damage, because they themselves are capable of carrying relief to them. Damage there may have been, but we may not be knowing it, because the State Government may not have reported.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** In view of the fact that in Assam hailstorms and rains are a continuing process up to which particular date the damages mentioned refer and if so whether later damages by hailstorms have been taken into account in granting relief?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It relates to all crops and all crop damages. We have tried to ascertain the extent of damage done and so far as my information goes, it refers to all damages.

#### Flood Control Measures in U.P.

- \*677-A. { **Shri Bishwanath Roy +**  
**Shri Raghunath Singh:**  
**Shri Fanna Lal:**  
**Shri Masuriya Din:**  
**Shri Rup Narain:**  
**Shri Dublisch:**  
**Shrimati Tarkeshwari**  
**Sinha:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the statement of the State Minister for Irrigation, U.P. Shri Rama Murti

at Gorakhpur on 20th May, 1957 to the effect that flood control works in the State have been abandoned owing to lack of funds promised by the Union Ministry of Planning; and

(b) if so, whether Government would enable the State Government of U.P. to complete the works which have been already undertaken?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (**Shri S. K. Patil**): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 100.]

**Shri Bishwanath Roy:** In view of the havoc created by floods during the last two years in many districts, may I know whether the whole question will be reconsidered?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** That does not arise out of this particular question, but surely, if there is a contingency later we shall be reconsidering that.

**Shri Bishwanath Roy:** May I know how many out of the measures started in U.P. have been stopped and have not been completed?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The question refers to a certain statement made by the Minister and not all these things.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** May I know what particular measures the Government have so far taken or propose to take to avoid a recurrence of floods in the eastern parts of U.P.?

**Mr. Speaker:** It does not arise. The question refers only to a statement by a Minister.

#### Tenders for Landing and Delivery of Coal

\*681. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether tenders were called for giving contract for landing and delivery of sea-borne coal in the port of Cochin for the year 1957-58;

(b) if so, how many tenders were received;

(c) whether the contract has been given for the party who submitted the lowest tender; and

(d) if not, who has been given the tender and the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Eight.

(c) Yes.

(d) Question does not arise.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** May I know the lowest tender amounts and the one next to that?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** As I said, eight parties submitted tenders. The lowest tender was of Messrs. South India Corporation (Private) Limited, and the amount quoted by them was Rs 6,41,694. This was lower by Rs 9,767 to that of the next party.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Who was the next party who gave the next lowest tender?

**Mr. Speaker:** How are we interested in these details?

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** We are interested in the details, Sir, because the tenders are read out at the time of acceptance.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are we now accepting the tenders?

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** The lowest amount was .

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not prepared to allow it.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** What are the amounts for the lowest two parties?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I have given them just now.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** You have given only one.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Rs. 9,767 above that figure, will give you the next lowest.

### Burma Rice

\*632. { **Shri Bahadur Singh** +;  
**Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of rice imported since the signing of the Indo-Burma Rice Agreement?

**The Deputy Minister of Food (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** About 5 lakh tons upto 15th May, 1957.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** May I know whether this imported rice from Burma will be provided to the States and the places where the price of rice has gone up due to shortage and, if so, the names of the States and places to which it will be supplied?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Whatever we import goes to the general pool and is allotted to the States that are deficit in rice and in some cases where the prices go up.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** May I know the total quantity stipulated in the agreement and the total amount that will be paid for it?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** In five years we have entered into an agreement for 2 million tons of rice out of which we intend to import 5 lakh tons this year and 5 lakh tons next year.

**Dr. K. B. Menon:** Are Government aware that the latest import of rice from Burma, landed at Ernakulam, is very low in quality?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** We have not been reported about that. In fact, Burma is giving us the new rice of this year, because they have over-sold their rice, and whenever we send steamers, they send, not the old rice, but the new rice from last year's crop. And we have not received any complaint from the Kerala Government.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** May I know at what rate per maund the Burma rice is sold, whether it is sold at a subsidised rate and, if so, what subsidy is being given?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** We are supplying it to the State Governments at Rs. 16 per maund, whereas it costs something like Rs 19 or Rs 20 per maund.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र मंत्री महोदय से मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो बर्मा का चावल आया है तो जिस सूबे के लोग ज्यादा चावल खाने हैं उन्हें औरों की अपेक्षा अधिक चावल दिया जायेगा या ईन्वेली सारे देश में बाँटा जायेगा ?

साक्षरता कृषि मंत्री (श्री ए. डी. जैन) . जो लोग चावल खाने वाले नहीं हैं उनको बिल्कुल नहीं दिया जायगा बल्कि हम बात की भी कोशिश की जायगी कि जो चावल खाने वाले हैं वे कुछ गेहूँ भी लायें ।

**Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** May I know the quantity of rice that has been allotted to the State of Madras?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Whatever Madras has asked for, we have given them

**Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** May I know the quantity?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** This is a question about Burma rice. If the hon Member gives notice of a separate question on this, I am prepared to answer it

#### विकास आयुक्तों का सम्मेलन

\*६८४ { श्री भक्त बर्शन :  
श्री ब्रह्मादुर सिंह  
श्री तिर्बया

क्या साम्प्रदायिक विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) अप्रैल, १९५७ में मसूरी में होने वाले विकास आयुक्तों के सम्मेलन में किन्हीं समस्याओं पर विचार किया गया और क्या सिफारिशें की गईं, और

(ख) उन सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित करने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

साम्प्रदायिक विकास मंत्री (श्री सु. कृ. डे.) (क) यह "मुख्य सिफारिशों व निष्कर्षों" में दिए गये हैं जिसकी नकलें पार्लियामेंट लाइब्रेरी में रख दी गई हैं ।

(ख) जिन सिफारिशों का सम्बन्ध इस मंत्रालय से है उनकी जाँच हो रही है । सिफारिशों को सब राज्य सरकारों व केन्द्रीय मंत्रालयों को भी उचित कार्यवाही के लिए भेज दिया गया है ।

I shall read the answer in English also

(a) These are given in the 'Main Recommendations and Conclusions' copies of which have been placed in the Parliament Library

(b) Recommendations concerning this Ministry are being examined. Recommendations have also been forwarded to all State Governments and Central Ministries concerned for necessary action

श्री भक्त बर्शन क्या यह सत्य है कि इस सम्मेलन में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री ने भाषण देने हुए सहकारी खेती पर बहुत जोर दिया जब कि उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री महोदय ने उसे बहुत ही अव्यवहारिक और असफल बताया तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने इन दोनों दृष्टिकोणों में से कौन सा दृष्टिकोण अपनाया है ?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** I have no knowledge of any controversy of the nature indicated by the hon. Member.

श्री भक्त बर्शन क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस तरह के सम्मेलनों में जो निर्णय किये जाते हैं, उनका राज्य सरकारों को कहीं तक पालन करनी है और इसके लिए क्या कोई मशीनरी निश्चित की गई है जो कि इसकी देखभाल करती रहे कि उनका पालन किया जाता है या नहीं ।

**Shri S. K. Dey:** There is always a close follow up of all activities following the recommendations of such conferences.

**Shri Raghunbir Sahai:** On a perusal of the proceedings of the conference, it appears that the Development Commissioners who assembled there did not take into consideration some of the very important recommendations of the Estimates Committee which were submitted to this House in 1956. May I know the reason therefor? Is it in the contemplation of the Government that the Estimates Committee report would be considered by this body separately on a different occasion?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** Most of the important recommendations made by the Estimates Committee have been considered either within the Ministry or in the conference. It is obvious that in a conference of 4 or 5 days, it is not possible to look into every single item in the four volumes of the Estimates Committee's report

**श्री अजय सिंह :** क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह बात मालूम है कि वहाँ पर उन्होंने जो यह स्टेटमेंट दिया है कि लोगों को मांस और मछली का अधिक प्रयोग करना चाहिए तो उनके इस स्टेटमेंट से वेजिटेरियन लोगो की फीलिंग्स बूझ हुई है ?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The Community Development Ministry is supposed to cater to the whole community of India. Therefore, it has a term of reference to promote more of vegetarian diet for vegetarians and more of non-vegetarian diet for non-vegetarians.

**Shri Tyabji:** The hon Minister just now replied that most of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee would be considered. May I know which are comprised in the word 'most' and which are not?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** It is very difficult to enumerate the large number of questions that have been raised in the Estimates Committee report, those that have been considered in the Development Commissioners' conference and those that have been considered in the Ministry.

**Shri Thimmamalai:** I understand that the conference discussed about the building up of village leadership. May I know what steps have been suggested to the State Governments to promote this village leadership?

**Mr. Speaker:** Have the proceedings of the conference been made available to Members?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The proceedings have been placed in the library of Parliament. We have taken steps already to print about 10,000 copies which will be circulated not only to hon. Members of Parliament, but also to Members of State legislatures.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** What particular concrete proposal has this conference laid down for the growth of co-operative agriculture, instead of merely saying development of co-operative agriculture?

Have they made any concrete proposals?

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon Members will kindly look into the report available in the Library

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** We have been talking about it for so many years now, but nothing concrete has been achieved. That is why I am asking if they have made any concrete suggestion

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The concrete recommendation is that co-operative farming should be promoted and procedures are being examined to give effect to this recommendation. I have no doubt that we shall have a good number of co-operative farms working in every block

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** May I know if there is a single co-operative farm working anywhere in India which is not a Government farm?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** There are a large number of farms. I cannot name all of them, but I know in the District of Madurai there is a co-operative farm of 300 to 400 acres of land, not owned by the Government, but owned by the members.



**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** The total number of co-operative farms of various types in India is between 1,400 and 1,500.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** But the question was whether...

**Shri A. P. Jain:** They are not Government farms, they are co-operative farms owned by the members of the co-operative societies.

**Mr. Speaker:** They are contradictions in terms. Government farms are State farms. Co-operative farms are owned by their members. What is the meaning of confusing this?

**Shri Heda:** On the one hand Government people's association in the community project work, and on the other hand we find that these Development Commissioners or BDOs. shun the co-operation from the representatives of the people, and they would like to go to the villages directly and avoid these people. If this is a fact, may I know what measures Government are taking so that better relationship and real co-operation is achieved between the two sectors?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** From the village up to the headquarters of the nation, steps are now being taken to encourage representatives of the people to associate with all activities of the programme. We expect, for instance, the hon. Members of Parliament who are Members of the informal consultative committee to associate themselves very actively with the implementation of this programme and the planning of the programme. In the same way, at the district level, at the block level and at the village level, the representatives of the people will be given all facilities to participate in this programme. We have for this purpose initiated a programme of village camps which will be in a very large number and which will cover the bulk of the population in the villages covered, under this programme I have no doubt that if the representatives of the people take a little more initiative...

**Mr. Speaker:** After the conference proceedings are published, when we meet in the next session we will have a discussion on community development projects and the conference, not now

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I suggest that along with that the latest evaluation report may also be taken into consideration?

**Mr. Speaker:** Very good. All relevant matters.

### गन्ने का मूल्य

\* ६८६ श्री विभूति मिश्र क्या साध तब कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेग कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चीनी की कई मिने १९५६-५७ की गन्ने की फसल का दोम गन्ना उत्पादको को नही दे सकी है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो विभिन्न राज्यों में चीनी की गन्ना कौन-कौन सी मिने १ और गन्ना उत्पादको की कितनी धन गति उन पर शेष है ?

\* ६८७ श्री मो० ब० कृष्णलाल (बी० ए०० ब० कृष्णलाल).

(क) और (ख) एक विवरण मभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [हेलिय परीक्षा ३, अगस्त संख्या १०१]

\* ६८८ श्री विभूति मिश्र मेरे प्रश्न का जो ए भाग है उस का जवाब मुझे ठीक नहीं मिला है। मैं ने प्रश्न पूछा है कि -

"(६) whether it is a fact that several sugar mills have not been able to pay to sugarcane growers the price of sugarcane for 1956-57 season; and

(b) if so, the names of such sugar mills in different States and the amounts due from them to the sugarcane growers?"

इस में सुगर फैक्ट्रीज का नाम नहीं दिया गया है, फिर भी मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप इस के लिए कोई स्टिमेंट मेजर्स लेने की सोच रहे हैं कि जिन चीनी मिलों में किसानों का पैसा रहता है, वह उन्हें जल्दी से जल्दी मिल जाए।

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** In the reply, I have stated that the cost of the sugarcane is paid by the sugar factories within a fortnight from the date of delivery. I have also stated that 86 per cent of the cane price has already been paid, and only about 14 per cent remains, and by this time, a greater portion of that also must have been paid.

श्री विभूति मिश्र मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो १४ परसेन्ट कैंस प्राइस बाकी रह गई है, जिस का कई करोड़ रुपया हो जाएगा, क्या हमारे मंत्री महादय कोशिश करेंगे कि वह तत्काल किसानों का मिल जाए?

**Mr. Speaker:** Why should there be so much of emotion and feeling on this matter?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Too much of sugar

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know the amount outstanding to the cane-growers

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** 14 per cent is outstanding

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the total sum outstanding?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** I shall give it presently.

In Bihar, they have purchased Rs. 11 crores worth of cane. They have paid already Rs. 9 crores, and Rs. 2 crores are outstanding, and a greater portion of it must have been paid by now.

श्री विभूति मिश्र चार करोड़ रुपया हमारे मंत्री जी को कम मालूम होता है, लेकिन क्या यह चार करोड़ रुपया किसानों को जल्दी मिल जाएगा, ताकि उनका काम चल सके?

**Mr. Speaker:** They are being paid, and by this time, they must have been paid the major portion.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** The point is that the mill-owners are supposed to pay their dues within fifteen days. How many mills are there in Bihar or in other parts of India, which do not pay within fifteen days to the agriculturists?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** The position is that there are rules governing the payment and there is also a time prescribed for the payment. That is the responsibility of the State Governments. The State Governments have framed regulations for the price payment. It is not the responsibility of the Central Government. We are only supplying the figures. We shall bring this to the notice of the State Government, but we cannot take any responsibility for any delay.

Of course, we have always been requesting the State Government to see that the payments are expedited.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question

**Shri Bishwanath Roy:** It is a very important point

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** May I know ..

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not going to allow any more supplementary questions. I am going to the next question.

#### Railway Headquarters at Pandu Region

†

\*687. { **Shri Hem Barua:**  
**Shri Bhagavati:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government have decided to shift the present Railway headquarters at Pandu region and break it up into three divisions as Pandu, Alipur Duar and Kathiwar?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** At present Pandu is not the headquarters of a

**Railway** It is only the headquarters of a Region. It is now proposed to form a new Railway Zone with headquarters at Pandu

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** We could not hear the last portion of the reply.

**Mr. Speaker:** He has said that it is proposed to have a new zone with headquarters at Pandu.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Is it going to be a new zone?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** Yes, a new zone

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Does it mean that the number of zones will be increased from seven to eight?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** Yes, precisely so

**Shri B. C. Ghose:** From which railway will this zone be carved out?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** From the North-Eastern Railway

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Which portion of the North-Eastern Railway will constitute the new zone?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** We have not yet worked out the minute details. So, it is too early to give any information on that point

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May we know the broad details?

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** At least the broad details may be given

**Mr. Speaker:** Does Shri B. S. Murthy know about the North-Eastern Railway?

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** The number of zones is being increased. So, it is a very important question

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon Members may try as far as possible to specialise in particular subjects and in particular territories. Supplementaries will be allowed only to those persons who are very well informed.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** I am interested in this. The North-Eastern Railway is going to be made into two zones.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next Question

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Probably, the Assam link will constitute

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Next question

#### Bridge over Godavari

\*688. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have sought any financial assistance for the construction of a bridge across the river Godavari near Bhadrachalam,

(b) if so, the amount asked for,

(c) whether the Central Government have considered the same, and

(d) if so, the decision thereon?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Is the report true that following the great disaster, in which nearly 300 people were drowned in Godavari, the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Central Government for financial aid for the construction of the bridge?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** My information at present is that no such proposal has yet been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Besides financial assistance, has any other assistance, like technical assistance, been sought by the Government of Andhra Pradesh?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The question will arise if a request or proposal is received from the Andhra Pradesh Government.

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे पर घात्री सविधानें

६८६ श्री ज० ना० सिंह क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह विदित है कि बिहार राज्य में प्रतिदिन हजारों लोग पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे की गाड़ियों के पायदानों और छतों पर यात्रा करते हैं, और

(ख) इस स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये सरकार का क्या कदम उठाने का विचार है ?

रेलवे डायरेक्टर (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) :  
(क) जी नहीं। लेकिन यह सच है कि कभी-कभी बिहार में पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में कुछ लोग गाड़ियों की छत और पायदान पर सफर करते हैं।

(ख) जब इजन और डिब्बे मिलेंगे और लाइन-क्षमता (capacity) बढ़ेगी, तो ज्यादा गाड़ियाँ चलायी जायेंगी। जहाँ तक हो सकेगा, चालू गाड़ियों में ज्यादा डिब्बे भी लगाये जायेंगे।

कई भाषाओं के इस्तहार और तसवीर वाले पोस्टर लगाकर यात्रियों में इस बात का खूब प्रचार किया जा रहा है कि वे छत और पायदान पर सफर न करें। टिकट की जाच करने वाले कर्मचारियों और यात्री सहायकों (Social Guides) को भी हिदायत दी गयी है कि वे गाड़ी की छत और पायदान पर सफर करने वालों को रोके। जो लोग मना करने पर भी छत और पायदान पर सफर करते पाये जाते हैं, उन पर मुकदमे चलाये जाते हैं, ये कार्रवाई जारी रहेगी और इन्हें बढ़ाया जायेगा।

श्री ज० ना० सिंह जो लोग रेल की डिब्बों की छतों पर चलते हैं उनको रोकने के लिए और गिरफ्तार करने के लिए टी० टी० ई० वर्ग रह को हिदायत दी गयी है लेकिन जब गाड़ी ओवर काउन्डेड जाती है और उसमें जो

लोग टिकट लेकर जाना चाहते हैं उनको कैसे रोंका जा सकता है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : सदस्य महोदय यह मान लेंते हैं कि सभी लोग जो छतों पर चलते हैं टिकट लेकर चलते हैं।

पंडित झा० ना० तिवारी : छत पर से गिर कर कितनों के अब तक प्राण गये हैं और नार्थ ईस्टर्न रेलवे में इस तरह चलने के लिए कितने लोगों पर आज तक मुकदमे चलाये गये हैं ?

श्री जगजीवन राम खुशी की बात तो यह है कि वे लोग इस तरह चलने में कितने माहिर हो गये हैं कि छत पर से गिर कर कोई मरता नहीं।

पंडित झा० ना० तिवारी मंत्री जी ने उत्तर में कहा है कि छतों और पायदानों पर चलने वालों पर मुकदमे चलाये जाते हैं। मैं ने पूछा था कि अब तक कितने मुकदमे चलाये गये। इसमें माहिर की क्या बात है।

श्री जगजीवन राम : माननीय सदस्य ने यह भी पूछा था कि कितने लोग मरे।

Mr. Speaker: The hon Member has asked a question as to how many people who travelled on footboards and roofs have fallen down and died

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The number of persons arrested on the North-Eastern Railway

Mr. Speaker: The arrested could not have died

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No person was killed

Shri Jagjivan Ram: 74 persons were apprehended and prosecuted by the North-Eastern Railway for travelling on footboards No person was killed or injured

Shri Sinhasan Singh: In the last Budget statement, the Railway Minister said that to remove congestion on

the North-Eastern Railway, more short-distance trains would be run May I know many more trains have been attached to this line to relieve congestion?

**Shri Shahnawas Khan:** Eight new trains have been introduced, 10 have been extended and 60 trains have been strengthened.

#### Air-Service via Gorakhpur

\*690. { **Shri Bishwanath Roy:**  
**Shri Sinhasan Singh:**  
**Shri Mahadeo Prasad:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the air service via Gorakhpur has been stopped, and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The traffic to and from Gorakhpur has been such that it did not cover even operation costs. The Indian Airlines Corporation did not therefore consider that the continuance of the service was justified.

**Shri Bishwanath Roy:** May I know whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for connecting Gorakhpur by any other air route?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Not by any other route, but we are examining if it is possible to provide some alternative connecting without providing scheduled services.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** This happened because there used to be only two days service in a week and the travellers who go by plane are mostly business people and nobody will wait for two days so that the plane may take them. So, would not Government try opening a daily service and see whether it runs at a loss or profit?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The average number of passengers was, Delhi to Gorakhpur 105, Lucknow to Gorakhpur 03, Banaras to Gorakhpur, 032, Gorakhpur to Patna 01 and Gorakhpur to Calcutta, 16, and the freight carried never exceeded 13 lbs. Mail was also insignificant. In view of this and the fact that there was great loss on operations, it would not be possible to revive it as a scheduled service. As I stated earlier, I am examining if some other method can be found.

**Shri Bishwanath Roy:** Is it not a fact that this scarcity of passengers was due to the fact that the route was not well connected with other services?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The route was Delhi, Lucknow, Banaras, Gorakhpur, Patna and Calcutta, and there were connections at the two terminals. As to whether there was any other airline starting from Delhi or Calcutta in connection with this service I would like to ask for notice. But, as far as I can recollect, I think, there were services in Calcutta and Delhi which offered facilities to passengers to travel wherever they wanted, either by evening planes or by night planes.

#### Fresh Water Supply Scheme in Kerala

†  
\*691. { **Shri V. P. Nayar:**  
**Shri Kodian:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the amount of Central aid so far given to the Kerala State for making fresh water available in the coastal tracts of the State?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar):** Rs 10 975 lakhs have so far been paid, as subsidy to the Government of Kerala for the implementation of their rural water supply schemes which include the scheme "Tubewells in Coastal areas."

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I find from the Second Plan that the overall allotment is to the tune of Rs. 28 crores.

for rural water supply and Rs 53 crores for urban water supply. Could I have an idea as to the amount which would be given under these two items during the Plan period to the State of Kerala?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Regarding the Second Five Year Plan, actually, during 1956-57, a sum of Rs 2 875 lakhs has been paid to the Kerala Government. And, during the current year, a Budget provision of Rs 15 crores exists for rural water supply and Kerala's share will be about Rs 4 lakhs.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that for the entire coastal belt of Kerala, where the density of population is, perhaps, the highest in India, there is no chance of getting fresh water because of the presence of the system of backwaters also there?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I appreciate the difficulty mentioned by the hon Member. But that coastal tract has been taken into consideration with all the other areas of the other States also whose problems are also very acute.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether the Government of India has considered the possibility of using the resources of the fresh water lake at Sasthankotta which can provide fresh water for the coastal area and, if so, whether Government propose to give any special grant in view of the scarcity of fresh water there?

**Shri Karmarkar:** It is a welcome suggestion but I should like to have notice for answering that question.

**Dr. K. B. Menon:** May I know whether the experiment of having filtered point wells in the coastal areas has been a success?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon Member asks whether experiment of filtered point wells—tubewells—has been tried and proved a success. There are different kinds of tubewells.

**Shri Karmarkar:** He means something, Sir.

**Shri Kediyan:** May I know whether Government have any specific plan to provide fresh water supply to the needy areas under the Second Five Year Plan and, if so, what is the provision in the Second Plan for this?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The States put up particular proposals and we come in by way of aid—in the matter of urban water supply, by way of loans and in the matter of rural areas by way of grants. If my hon friend wants details regarding the proposals that have come in from Kerala and the extent to which we are able to respond, I would like to have notice.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon Members must have given more information. Shri Nayar wants to know whether fresh water could be drawn from a particular tank and so on.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The question specifically is about the Central Government's grant for the Kerala State. Still, the hon Minister wants separate notice for it.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon Member asks about the experiment of drawing water from a fresh water tank in Kerala whose name I am not able to pronounce. (Interruptions) Only persons in Kerala could pronounce it. How can he expect Shri Karmarkar who comes from Karnataka to know about it? Therefore, whatever details they want to ask, let them put them in the question itself. Next question.

#### **Aerodrome near Azamgarh**

\*693. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to construct a temporary aerodrome or runway cement track near the Azamgarh town; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Kalika Singh:** May I know if the matter will be considered in the near future since this place is often marooned by floods?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** I do not think that there is much likelihood of this town being connected by airways. There is an airport fifty miles away at Banaras and I think it will not be possible to build one in Azamgarh.

**Mr. Speaker:** In future, I propose to adopt the following procedure. In questions of this kind where some information regarding whether an individual aerodrome will be constructed in Azamgarh or air services will be connected with Gorakhpur or to some particular place etc I will send the question to the Minister and then pass on the answers to the hon Member. These individual cases should not be brought before the House. I would urge upon Members to write to the Ministers. In case they do not obtain redress or information then they may inform the Lok Sabha Secretariat who will get information.

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai):** We welcome it. (Interruptions)

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon Ministers also welcome it. They can give answers. The hon Members may send them their questions and they will answer as quickly as possible.

**Archarya Kripalani:** The hon Members want to show to their constituencies that they are doing something.

**Mr. Speaker:** Not in small matters. They can send all that to the Press after receiving information.

रेलवे हाई स्कूल, ब-145पुर

\*६६५. श्री जांगड़े क्या रे-वे मंत्री १३ सितम्बर, १९५६ के तारकित प्रश्न संख्या २११८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि बिलासपुर में प्रस्तावित

रेलवे हाई स्कूल स्थापित करने के सम्बन्ध में क्या स्थिति है ?

रेलवे उ-संत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) . बिलासपुर रेलवे मिडिल स्कूल को हाई स्कूल बनाने के बारे में अभी विचार किया जा रहा है ।

श्री जांगड़े क्या माननीय उपसत्री जी को ज्ञात है कि बिलासपुर रेलवे हाई स्कूल में वहाँ के गार्डियनो ने दसवी क्लास तक को कक्षाये खोल रखी है और लड़के वहाँ पढ़ रहे हैं । क्या उसके लिए मान्यता प्राप्त करवाने के लिए रेलवे मंत्रालय विचार करेगा ? यदि नहीं, तो रेलवे मंत्रालय इस सम्बन्ध में क्या उपाय सोच रहा है कि वे लड़के किस स्कूल और कौन से वर्ग के एग्जामिनेशन में बैठें ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ इस सिलमिले में बातचीत हो रही है और उम्मीद है कि बहुत जल्द मुनामिब कार्रवाई की जाएगी ।

श्री जांगड़े इस कार्रवाई के कब तक पूरे होने की सम्भावना है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ इसका बारे में कोई खास तारीख तो नहीं दे सकता है । लेकिन मैं आनन्दबल मेम्बर का यकीन दिला सकता हूँ कि रेलवे मंत्रालय काफी कोशिश कर रहा है और मध्य प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने भी इस बात का यकीन दिलाया है कि वह शायद जल्दी ही इस बारे में कोई कार्रवाई करेगी ।

सरदार अ-मि-त-लाल क्या गवर्नमेंट को ज्ञात है कि बिलासपुर डिविजनल हैडक्वार्टर हाने जा रहा है ? यदि हाँ, तो उस परिस्थिति में वहाँ के बच्चों का पढ़ाई का ठीक इन्जिाम करने के लिए हाई स्कूल या खोला जाना निहायत जरूरी है और क्या गवर्नमेंट इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देगी ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ यही तो मैं शुरू से अर्ज कर रहा हूँ कि बहुत जल्द महसूस हो रही है ।

बाल में रेलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण

"इ. २६. श्री ह० च० शर्मा : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राजस्थान के भारत सच के साथ आर्थिक एकीकरण के परिणामस्वरूप राज्य के भूतपूर्व राज्यों की रेलों के केन्द्र द्वारा लिये जाने से राजस्थान को लगभग ५० करोड़ रुपये की हानि हुई है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने बी० बी० एण्ड सी० आई० रेलवे को नागदा—मथुरा सेक्शन में राजस्थान द्वारा सपाये गये ८५ लाख रुपये के शेर अपने अधिकार में कर लिये हैं ; और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि राजस्थान की इस से जो भारी हानि हुई है उस के प्रतिकर के रूप में उसे कुछ नहीं दिया गया है ?

रेलवे डायरेक्टर (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :

(क) शायद माननीय सदस्य का मतलब राजस्थान की भूतपूर्व रियासती रेलों की खाता कीमत (book value) से है जो I-4-50 को फेडरल वित्तीय एकीकरण (federal financial integration) के बाद ले ली गयी थी और भारतीय यूनियन की 'फेडरल परिसम्पत्ति' (federal assets) में मिला दी गयी। अगर माननीय सदस्य का मतलब यही है, तो I-4-50 को इन रेलों की लागत-पूँजी (capital-at-charge) लगभग 14.23 करोड़ रुपये थी और उसके मूल्य-ह्रास और अक्षित निधियों (Depreciation and Reserve Funds) में लगभग 60.34 लाख रुपये थी।

(ख) जी हाँ।

(ग) फेडरल वित्तीय एकीकरण योजना (Federal Financial Integration Scheme) के मुताबिक कोई मुआवजा नहीं देना था।

Shri Dasappa: Sir, I request that the answer may be given in English also.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister may kindly give the English version of his reply.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: (a) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the book value of the railways belonging to the Ex-Indian States in Rajasthan taken over and added to the federal assets of the Union of India on the Federal Financial Integration on 1st April, 1950. If so, the capital-at-charge of these railways was Rs. 14.23 crores and the aggregate balances in the Depreciation and Reserve funds was about Rs. 60.34 lakhs on 1st April, 1950.

(b) Yes.

(c) No compensation was payable under the Federal Financial Integration Scheme.

श्री ह० च० शर्मा : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या राजस्थान सरकार ने इस बारे में कोई आवेदन दिया है और कहा है कि क्षतिपूर्ति की जाए ? अगर दिया है, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसका क्या उत्तर दिया गया है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : उसके आवेदन के जवाब का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता है क्योंकि फेडरल फाइनेंशियल इंटिग्रेशन स्कीम के मुताबिक कोई कम्पेंसेशन हमको देना ही नहीं था।

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any changes have been made in the system of accounting as a result of transfer of assets from Rajasthan, and how the assets of both the Provincial and the Central Governments have been adjusted in the books of accounts?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I cannot say definitely, but I presume after the integration the system of accounting prevalent on the Government Railways must have been introduced on those railways.

Shri T. N. Singh: Whatever was to the credit of the Rajasthan Government in the assets and liabilities statement, what has happened to that credit? I want to know where it has



gone, in which book has it been entered and how has the debit on the other side been adjusted.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I do not have the information with me now, I would require notice

**Shri Heda:** Apart from these capital assets, so far as the liquid cash of the former railways in the old princely States are concerned, it was stated at that time that this cash would be utilised in the construction of new railway lines in those areas. May I know whether that promise has been implemented or not?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I would require notice to answer that point also, I am not aware of that promise or assurance.

**Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj:** May I know whether the different projects of the different railways in Rajasthan which were pending with them at the time of amalgamation have all been completed, or they are under consideration, or whether are they not to be completed at all?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I do not know whether it arises out of this question. But, I may tell the hon. Member that those projects which were already taken in hand might have been proceeded with, and some of the projects which were contemplated by those railways will be treated on a par with the projects in other parts of the country, they may be considered if the financial resources provided in the Plan permit it.

**Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj:** Because Rajasthan is an underdeveloped country, may I know whether special consideration will be given at the time of the consideration of the projects? If you consider them at par underdeveloped countries like Rajasthan will suffer.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** There are parts in India which, from that point of view, may be regarded more backward than even Rajasthan. As I have said, if the financial and material resources permit it the question of

all the backward areas will be taken into consideration.

#### Irrigated Areas in States

\*698. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) whether there is shortfall in the extent of irrigated area as reported by the States in 1956-57 in their progress reports as compared to the extent reported by the States in 1955-56 in connection with the preparation of the Second Plan, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha as soon as it is ready.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the statement made by Shri V. T. Krishnamachari, Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission, to the effect that out of the irrigation projects, while 63 million acres should have been brought under cultivation by 1956, as a matter of fact, only 4 million acres were brought under cultivation and, if so, may I know whether any further facts will be collected?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Yes, Sir. The Government's attention has been drawn. But the question asked is, how the figure for 1956-57 compare with that of 1955-56. That is why the figures are necessary.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** May I know whether the attention of the Government has also been drawn to a further statement by the Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission that this is a waste of national asset, namely, to keep the water impounded at enormous cost unutilised and, if so, what steps are the Government going to take or are taking now?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The hon. Member has already the information. He has given me the information. We

have the information. But the question is, how the figures in question compare with those of the previous year. That information has got to be collected.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know whether it is a fact that the irrigated area in 1956-57 went down as compared to the irrigated areas in 1955-56 and, if so, by how much has it gone down? What is the information that the Government possess?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Those are the figures that we are collecting. So far as the statement in the question is concerned, there is a shortfall. It is a statement and it is a correct one. But we want the figures to know how the figures for 1956-57 compare with those of 1955-56. Those figures are not up-to-date with me. That is why I said we are collecting the information.

**Sardar Iqbal Singh:** In view of the fact that there is a shortfall in the irrigated area, will the Government enquire into those projects which have not come to the mark or at least which have not completed their quota in respect of irrigation?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Surely. This is a very grave question and the Government are considering how to tackle it.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** The hon. Minister admitted that the shortfall is known to the Government. So, what are the reasons for the shortfall?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The question as to what the reasons are does not exactly arise. The hon. Member has asked how the figures compare with the figures for the previous year. So far as the other question is concerned, namely, how to deal with the shortfall, as I said, it is a grave question and we are considering it, and very soon our policy will be made known to Parliament.

**Shri Jadhav:** Is it a fact that the Bombay State has got the lowest acreage of irrigated land in the whole of India and, if so, is the Government going to concentrate on it?

**Mr. Speaker:** That does not arise out of this question.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** I am sorry that the hon. Minister has misunderstood the question. I asked the question whether there is a shortfall and, if so, what are the reasons therefor. I have not asked for any comparative statement.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The question is whether there is a shortfall in the extent of irrigated area as reported by the States in 1956-57, in their progress reports, as compared to the extent reported by the States in 1955-56. Therefore, there is a comparison. So far as the shortfall is concerned, we admit it. It is a shortfall. But that is not the information asked for.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** What are the reasons for the shortfall?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants an answer to part (b) of his question—"the reasons therefor".

**Shri S. K. Patil:** These are the reasons for the shortfall. Of course, they have not been thoroughly enquired into, but as far as our present information goes, it is this. The shortfall in the irrigated area is mainly due to (1) canals and distributaries not being completed by the time the dam is complete and the stored water is available for use; (2) the time-lag between the completion of the project in all respects and the readiness of the cultivator to utilise the water for irrigation.

### Over-Bridge in Delhi

\*699. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the construction of the over-bridge between Lahori Gate to Qutab Road in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the work is at a standstill;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) what was the scheduled time allowed for the construction of this bridge and whether the work will be completed within the scheduled time; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) This is a joint work carried out by the Railway Administration and the Road Authorities. As far as the Railway portion of the work is concerned, there are 3 phases:

- (1) Portion of bridge over main line between Delhi Main and New Delhi Railway Station.
- (2) Portion of bridge over metre gauge track.
- (3) Portion of bridge over Okhla Canal refuse siding (sullage siding).

The work on items (1) & (2) has been completed. For item 3, masonry portion of the work has been completed and the girders erected; further work is in progress.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The work is scheduled to be completed by 31-7-57 and is expected to be completed by that date

(e) Does not arise.

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know, Sir, what is the cost which is expected to be incurred on this bridge and how that cost will be divided between the agencies who are to bear it, and which are they?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I am sorry I have not that information with me here.

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know whether, in view of the increasing traffic, Government have taken into consideration that the bridge should be sufficient to meet it, and whether it has undergone some change from the original plan?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** We are making full allowances for the amount of traffic that will have to be dealt with. The Central P.W.D. and the Delhi State authorities are taking

steps to acquire land for widening the roads.

### Ammonium Sulphate

\*700. **Shri Bali Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the enhancement of price of sulphate of ammonia; and

(b) the policy of Government in regard to subsidising the price of sulphate of ammonia?

**The Minister of Cooperation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The enhancement is mainly due to:—

- (i) increase in the general tariff rate of ocean freight;
- (ii) extra ocean freight on account of diversion of shipments *via* the cape due to the closure of Suez Canal; and
- (iii) increase in the procurement price of indigenous production

(b) The policy is not to subsidise the price of sulphate of ammonia.

**Shri Bali Reddy:** Now that Suez is open to traffic, is there any likelihood of prices coming down in the near future?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** When the prices do actually come down we shall try and do our best.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** Is it the policy of Government to link up prices with foreign material when we can produce the same thing in this country at a cheaper rate on the plea that things are costlier abroad and not to reduce the prices when things are cheaper abroad, maintaining the prices on the high level, on the ground that we cannot produce it at a lower price?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This question may very well be addressed to the Minister for Industries.

**Trains on Siliguri-Lucknow Section**

\*701. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the number of times the Siliguri-Lucknow Mail train failed to arrive at Lucknow in time since the new time table came into force from the 1st April, 1957, and

(b) the number of local trains, which have been introduced since that date on this route to avoid rush of passengers?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) During the period from 1-4-57 to 15-5-57 No 301 Up Avadh Trrhut Mail running between Siliguri and Kanpur—Anwarganj arrived late at Lucknow on 28 occasions

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha

[See Appendix III, annexure No 102]

**Shri Amjad Ali:** There is a patent mistake in the answer to the first part of the question. On the first of April no time table had come into force in the North-Eastern Railway. The Railway Ministry should have looked into that. Is the hon Minister in a position to give the break up of the figures.

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** I do not quite follow the hon Member

**Shri Amjad Ali:** I want to break-up of the figures from the 1st of April 1957

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** Break-up of what figures?

**Some Hon. Members:** Of unpunctuality figures

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the number of times it came late?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** We would require notice

**National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme**

\*702. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) the places where two pilot projects for environmental sanitation as an approved scheme under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme have been established,

(b) the results thereof, and

(c) whether some more schemes are proposed to be taken up in the near future?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) One of the two environmental Sanitation Projects sponsored by the WHO has been established in Kerala State. The other Project earmarked for Delhi has not yet been started

(b) The Kerala Project is still in the initial stage and it is too early to assess the results

(c) Yes

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** From the report I find that another environmental sanitation centre has been established in Travancore-Cochin and States undesignated and they would be four in number (page 68 of the report supplied to us). May I know whether those schemes are also included in the Five Year projects?

**Shri Karmarkar:** So far as Kerala is concerned—and that includes Travancore-Cochin of the old days—there is one centre and the State Government is trying to do its share. That is one centre proposed

**Hyderabad Railway Bridges Inspection Committee**

12 00 hrs.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is a request from Shri T B Vittal Rao that Question No 743, which has not been reached today, relates to an important matter, according to him, namely, about the Hyderabad Railway Bridges Inspection Committee, and may be answered

Is the hon Minister willing to answer it? I leave it to him

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** Yes, Sir.

\*742. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main recommendations in the report of the Experts Committee appointed to examine the railway bridge in Secunderabad Division, Central Railway,

(b) whether the Railway Administration is going to initiate action on any of them before the setting in of monsoon, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to watch the railway bridges during the rainy season?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** (a) and (b) It has already been stated in my reply to Starred Question No 180 given on 20-5-57 that the report was received on 11-5-57 and the same is under consideration. There has been no material change since then.

(c) Necessary steps will be taken according to the instructions already issued on the subject.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** The question asks, "What are the main recommendations in the report of the Experts Committee?"

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I have just stated that the matter is under consideration, and after we have considered it we will be able to give it out.

**Mr. Speaker:** After consideration they will place it.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Am I to understand that the report of the Committee will not be placed unless and until it has been examined by the Railway Board?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is the usual course—unless it is examined by Government.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** This is a technical report.

**Mr. Speaker:** Whatever it is.

# Short Notice Questions and Answers Infectious Diseases Hospital in Delhi

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S.N.Q. No. 11. { **Shri V. P. Nayar:**  
                          **Shri Easwara Iyer:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to a report in the Times of India (Delhi) of the 28th May, 1957 regarding the state of affairs of the Infectious Diseases Hospital in Delhi, and

(b) what immediate steps, if any, Government propose to take in order to minimise the hardships to patients and risk to public health in the Capital?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar):** (a) Yes

(b) The Delhi Administration has already taken up the laying of a 6" main for the improvement of the water supply to hospital. The question of increasing the accommodation and strengthening the medical and ancillary staff of the hospital is also under the consideration of the Delhi Administration.

I would like to add, Sir, that the following steps are contemplated to be taken or under the consideration of the Delhi Administration.

(1) An increase in the strength of the medical and ancillary staff is under consideration,

(2) Provision of extra filtered water supply—by means of the six inch main to which I referred,

(3) Provision of another sewage tank for better disposal of sewage is, again, under the consideration of the C P W D.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** It is reported that patients suffering from tuberculosis are being treated in the verandahs. This, naturally, will involve grave risk to public health. May I know whether Government have made any

provision for the immediate transfer of such patients as are kept in the verandahs and huts to enclosed places?

**Shri Karmarkar.** There is no difficulty about transferring, but the question is where to. And therefore instead of refusing patients, we are trying to accommodate them in the space which is there. Due to the want of sufficient space there, there is naturally a little overcrowding.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Before this report was published, has it ever been brought to the notice of the Government of India that patients with chicken-pox and with acute tuberculosis are allowed to be kept in thatched huts in this sweltering heat of Delhi for quite a number of days?

**Shri Karmarkar.** It was some time before this report appeared that we went into this matter and we sent a man from the Government of India to look into this matter—it was a surprise visit—and we have made our own suggestions to the Delhi Administration. And, as I said, the Delhi Administration are contemplating, as far as possible, immediate relief in the matter to the extent that is possible.

**Shri Easwara Iyer.** May I know whether it is a fact that the Director of Health Services stated that much could not be done regarding accommodation of these unfortunate victims of tuberculosis, mumps and chicken pox?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Sir, I could not follow the question.

**Mr Speaker.** Regarding accommodation it appears that the Director of Health Services has said that it is not possible to provide any accommodation for these unfortunate people, and whether these patients suffering from such ailments are housed in huts?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Let me frankly confess to the House that the extent to which we are able to give relief is

not adequate fully to meet the situation, nor can anything wonderful be done in the matter. Here is a hospital that was meant for 150 beds. Actually more patients are coming in. Rather than throwing them on the street, we have been trying to squeeze them in the accommodation there. If the House does not approve of it, we may think of sending them out. It is such a big problem in the State of Delhi. The Delhi Administration has been struggling its best to see that the accommodation is increased to the extent possible.

**Some Hon Members rose**

**Mr Speaker.** Next question.

**New Virus Disease in Mysore State**

**S.N.Q. No. 12. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether the Virus Research Institute of Poona has diagnosed the "Mystery" disease as Russian Spring Summer encephalitis

(b) whether the findings have been confirmed by any foreign experts, and

(c) if so, what precautions have been taken by Government to check the spread of the "Mystery" disease?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) yes

(b) The diagnosis of the virus was done by the staff of the Virus Research Centre, Poona, among whom were 2 foreign experts—namely Dr Work and Dr Trapido, lent by the Rockefeller Foundation. No other foreign expert was requisitioned to confirm the diagnosis.

(c) Certain preventive measures for controlling the ticks have been taken, like burning of dry leaves within a few furlongs of the affected villages, spraying of Gammexene in all houses in the affected area, cyanofumigation of virus to destroy the rodents. Immunisation of the population with yellow fever vaccine is also contemplated.

**Shri Sanganna:** What is the reason for calling this disease as mysterious?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Mysterious because this is the first time that it has occurred in India in recent times, mysterious further because the exact source was not known till we found it namely ticks carried by monkeys and transferred to man and mysterious because it cannot be labelled under any of the known diseases

**Shri Sanganna:** What are the symptoms of this mysterious disease?

**Mr. Speaker:** We are going into the details. Only a doctor can explain. Next question.

#### Delegation of Indian Scientists to Russia

**S.N.Q. No. 13. Shri S. C. Samanta.** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Russia Academy of Science has requested the Government of India to send a delegation of Indian Scientists to Russia;

(b) whether the request has been acceded to,

(c) if so, how the selection of members of the delegation has been made,

(d) when the delegation is likely to leave,

(e) who will bear their expenses, and

(f) who will be the leader of the delegation?

**The Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das).**

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Selection has been made from the leading scientists of the country in various fields of scientific and technological activity and research Scientists who have visited the Soviet

Union before have not been included. Also some scientists, who were tentatively selected but expressed their inability to join the delegation have been replaced by others. The list has not yet been finalised.

(d) The delegation will leave for the Soviet Union as soon as arrangements are completed.

(e) In the Soviet Union the delegates will be the guests of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. All expenses to the border of the Soviet Union and back will be borne by the Government of India.

(f) Dr K S Krishnan, Director of the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, is expected to lead the delegation.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether it is a fact that in making this selection, scientists engaged in fundamental research and professors of Universities have been ignored and only Directors of Government Institutes have been selected?

**Shri M. M. Das:** It is not a fact. If the hon Member examines the list of delegates

**Shri Hem Barua:** There is no list, the list is not finalised.

**Shri M. M. Das:** There is a tentative list. Final means, it has not yet been finalised by the Government of India. The Cabinet has to give the final decision.

If the hon Member examines the list, he will find that at least 50 per cent of members of this delegation are University professors and scientists who are engaged in fundamental research. If you will permit me, I can give the names also.

**Mr. Speaker:** No

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether all the names, recommended by the Russian Academy, of Indian scientists have been selected or some have been left?

**Shri M. M. Das:** All of them have not been selected. The Russians in their invitation suggested the names of certain persons who wanted to go to Russia. The names are as follows: Dr C. V. Raman, Prof M. S Thacker, Prof. Srimvasan, the then Director of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Dr Lahiri, Director of the Fuel Research Institute, and Dr. Naga, presumably Dr. Nagin Chaudhury of the Institute of Nuclear Physics, Calcutta. And out of these, I think only one, Dr Lahiri, Director of the Fuel Research Institute, is going to Russia. For various reasons the other scientists could not be included.

#### Movement of Foodgrains to Bihar

†

S.N.Q.      { Shri P. G. Sen:  
No. 14.      { Shri A. K. Singh:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foodgrains booked from Visakhapatnam and other places of storage have reached their destination in the scarcity areas of Bihar; and

(b) when were orders for the despatch to Purnia given and when the foodgrains are expected to reach there in view of the growing distress in Bihar?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) A portion of the foodgrains booked has reached the destinations and the balance is in transit

(b) From 1-5-1957 upto 27-5-1957, 57 B.G. wagons were booked from Bombay and Visakhapatnam to Purnia of which 22 wagons were from Bombay 37 M.G. wagons of foodgrains have already reached that station, and intimation has been received from the Civil Authorities that further wagons are not immediately required at Purnia and that further consignments, over and above those in transit, are not for the time being required there.

**Shri P. G. Sen:** Has any priority been given to such consignments?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** Yes, Sir. Top priority is given to the movement of foodgrains to deficit areas.

**Shri P. C. Sen:** May I know the time taken in this transshipment?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** Some of the wagons were booked from Visakhapatnam on 10th May, and as I have stated in my reply they have reached there already, and in fact, the District Supply Officer feels so satisfied with the movement of foodgrains that he says he does not require any more

#### Taxation Proposals

S.N.Q. No. 15. **Shri B. C. Kamble:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only about a week prior to the Minister of Finance placing the taxation proposals before Lok Sabha about 1,65,000 (one lakh and sixty five thousands) tons of sugar was released by Government from factory godowns and that almost the whole quantity of sugar was immediately sold out in about 5 to 6 days;

(b) whether any other commodities which were proposed to be taxed, were released by Government during the period commencing from the discussion of taxation proposals by Government and ending with placing of the proposals before Lok Sabha; and

(c) if so, quantum of each of these commodities?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes, Sir. On the 6th of May, 1,63,558 tons is reported to have been released for sale in the internal market under the provision of the Sugar Control Order. The quantity released bears comparison with the quantities usually released from time to time under this Order. For instance



|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| The release on 25th July 1955 was | 158,554 tons |
| " 23rd Aug. 1956 "                | 160,869 "    |
| " 11th Oct " "                    | 162,142 "    |
| " 12th Nov " "                    | 160,045 "    |
| " 17th Dec " "                    | 230,965 "    |
| " 23rd Jan 1957 "                 | 177,402 "    |
| " 21st Feb " "                    | 164,824 "    |
| " 28th Mar " "                    | 167,372 "    |

The later part of the Question seems to indicate that releases under the Sugar Control Order are directly tied up with the collection of duties by Excise Officials. In fact this is not so. Collection of duty is normally made only at the time of despatch from the mill godowns.

On the 6th of May, the mills had a balance of free stocks of some 60,000 tons which together with the release made that day amounted to 2,23,000 tons and odd. Free stocks with the factories on 15th May 1957 was 1,27,000 tons and odd and this quantity would bear the increased excise duty.

(b) No other commodity excepting steel and cement on which Central Excise duties are levied are subject to releases by Government. In the case of steel, the Excise duty is on ingots but the distribution control is only on the production of rolled sections made out of duty paid ingots. As for cement, distribution control is exercised at a stage subsequent to the payment of excise duty.

(c) Does not arise.

**Shri B. C. Kamble:** May I know the manner and method by which the Budget proposals are guarded by Government usually, and whether there are any additional steps taken to guard the Budget proposals since the leakage last year?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does it arise out of this?

**Shri B. C. Kamble:** There is a possibility of leakage of Budget proposals.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is all right. There are many things in the world which can be asked. But how does that arise out of this question?

**Shri Nath Pai:** Is the Finance Minister aware that because of these sugar

releases, for which he has given reasons—which on the face of them look satisfactory, all the same—the Treasury has been robbed of as much as Rs 14 crores?

**Shri C. D. Pande:** We have met this gap.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know whether the effect of the last release is a shortfall of Rs 14 crores.

**Shri Nath Pai:** And mine is a conservative estimate.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have given the figures. I have also given the figures for a number of months, which show that the average quantum of release under the Sugar Control Order by the Ministry over which my colleague Shri A. P. Jam presides, is of the order of about 1,60,000 tons.

The previous release was on the 28th March, and therefore, the stocks were running low, the free stocks available with several mills in this period was about 60,000 tons. The excise officials did not come into the picture. The Food and Agriculture Ministry was not aware of the fact that there was going to be any increase in the excise duty. So, the release made on 6th May was a normal release.

- I have also demonstrated that on the day on which the excise duty was raised, there were 1,27,000 tons with the sugar mills, which would bear the increased excise duty. So, the release to the public from the sugar mills between the 6th May and the 15th May was more or less of a normal character. Therefore, there is no question of anybody trying to save any excise duty by inhibiting release.

In fact, what would have happened, if we had given the slightest inclination to any section, whether of Government officials or of other people, is that we might probably have had sufficient cornering.

**Yellow Rain near Tanjore**

**S.N.Q. No. 18. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any information as to the fall of yellow rain reeking of burning sulphur on the 24th May, 1957, in a village near Tanjore (Madras),

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made into the causes of the phenomenon, and

(c) if so, with what result?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) Government have no information on the subject beyond what has been reported in the press. There is no observatory of the Indian Meteorological Department at the place where the yellow rain is supposed to have fallen

(b) and (c) As neither observational reports nor samples of the rain-drops are available no investigation has been possible

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know whether Government propose to make any enquiry to find out the actual cause of this?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** As I have stated just now, since the sample of the rain drops is not available, no investigation is possible. But a tentative explanation has been attempted. It has been suggested that it may perhaps be due to local pollution of the air by factory chimney smoke

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** It may be a shower of gold

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****Khargpur Accident**

**\*680. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 217 on the 20th November, 1956 and state

(a) whether the final report on the Kharagpur accident has since been submitted to Government, and

(b) if so, whether it has been examined?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, it has also been accepted by the Government

**कल्याणी नदी में ट्रालर की दुर्घटना**

**\*६८३ श्री रघुनथ सिंह क्या**  
परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रविवार, १ अप्रैल, १९५७ को एक भारतीय ट्रालर जहाज कल्याणी-देवी नदी के मुहाने के निकट रेल में घस गया और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस दुर्घटना का व्यौरा क्या है?

परिवहन तथा संचार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) (क) जी हाँ, ३१ मार्च, १९५७ को।

(ख) ३० मार्च, १९५७ को सुबह ५ बजे कलकत्ता में एक कल्याणी-IV नामी मछली पकड़ने वाला मोटर ट्रालर जहाज भारत के पूर्वी तट पर देवी और प्राची नदियों के बीच मछली पकड़ने की यात्रा पर खाना हुआ। ३१ मार्च, को सुबह ८ बजे कर २० मिनट पर हुगली पोतचालक (Hoogly-Pilot) को छुट्टी दी गई और जहाज मछलियाँ

पकड़ने के स्थानों की ओर अपने सदा के मार्ग पर चल पड़ा। मौसम अच्छा था और बिना किसी अशुभ घटना के जहाज ३१ मार्च, साढ़े ५ बजे सौराष्ट्र के फाल्गुना पोर्ट नार्थ प्रकाशस्थल पर पहुँचा। किन्तु रात के ६ बजेकर ८ मिनट पर अचानक एक झटका लगता मालूम हुआ और जहाज जमीन के अन्दर धसा हुआ पाया गया। तत्पश्चात् जहाज को फिर पानी के ऊपर तैराया गया और उसे १६ अप्रैल को लीचकर कलकत्ता वापिस लाया गया।

### नर्मदा पर पुल

\*६८५ श्री अमर सिंह खानर क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री २५ अगस्त, १९५६ के तारोंकित प्रश्न सख्या १४२५ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश के धार तथा नीमाडे जिले में बड़बानी के समीप नर्मदा नदी पर पुल बनाने का काम कब तक आरम्भ होने की सम्भावना है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में रा. य. मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) पुल का डिजाइन और अनुमानित खर्च (estimate) मजूर हो चुका है। इस पुल के बनाने में केन्द्रीय सरकार के गृह मंत्रालय ने आधा खर्चा देना स्वीकार किया है और इसके प्राप्त होने पर मध्य प्रदेश, राज्य सरकार पुल के बनाने का काम शुरू कर देगी। राज्य सरकार इस फंड को हासिल करने के लिए कार्रवाई कर रही है।

### Foreign Exchange by Sale of Indian Stamps

\*692. Shri Biren Roy: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the total amounts of foreign exchange earned from the sale of Indian stamps to the philatelists during the last three years?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The information asked for is not available as sales of Indian postage stamps are mainly effected in India by post offices and philatelic bureaux, and it is not possible to assess the extent to which these stamps are sold abroad by dealers and others. A statement is however laid on the Table of the Sabha showing the quantities and the value of the special and commemorative stamps printed and issued during the last three years [See Appendix III, Annexure 103]. It may safely be presumed that not an inconsiderable portion of the stamps found their way to foreign markets. The possibility of ascertaining the extent of such sales will be examined.

### Ban on Applications of Railway Officials

\*694. Shri J. R. Mehta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the ban imposed some time back on railway officials against seeking employment in other Departments has been removed,

(b) if so, what were the reasons which led to its imposition, and

(c) the reason for its withdrawal now?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Difficult cadre position and large scale requirements of staff for implementing the Railways' Second Five Year Plan

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above

**Medical College at Aligarh**

\*697. **Shri Pocker Sahib:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether any application has been made by the Aligarh University or any other authority for sanction to start a Medical College at Aligarh,

(b) whether all the conditions as to equipment have been fulfilled, and

(c) whether the sanction has been granted and if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) The Government of India's sanction is not required for starting a medical college and no application for any such sanction has been received from the Aligarh University

(b) The Government of India have not laid any condition as to equipment

(c) Does not arise

**Poona Railway Station**

\*703. **Shri Assar.** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of passengers were stranded at Poona Railway Station on the 14th May, 1957 for want of bogies to be attached to the tram scheduled for Miraj Station, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No

(b) Does not arise

**Divisional Headquarters at Khurda Road**

\*704 **Shri Sanganna.** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1249 on the 6th April, 1956 in respect of Railway Divisional Headquarters at Khurda Road and state—

(a) whether any decision has since been arrived at, and

(b) if so, what is it?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No

(b) Does not arise

**Minor Ports on the West Coast**

\*705. **Shri Sonawane:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to develop any of the minor ports on the West Coast of Konkan in the Bombay State,

(b) the facilities Government have added to the minor ports on the Konkan coast from 1952 up-to-date in order to relieve the inconvenience experienced by the passengers due to non-calling of coastal ships at the port of Janjira, and

(c) the steps taken by Government to avoid the sinking of coastal shipping at the danger zones where coastal ships viz Tukaram and others had sunk some years back causing loss of human life?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The development of minor ports is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government gives financial assistance for schemes included in the Five Year Plans which cover about nineteen minor ports on the Konkan coast

(b) The Government of Bombay have been requested to furnish the information which will be laid on the Table of the Sabha, when received

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 104]

**Expenditure on South Delhi Municipality**

\*706. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing

(a) what expenditure the South Delhi Municipality incurred under

different heads each year for the last three years,

(b) what are the sources of income for the South Delhi Municipality

(c) the total income from loans, grants and other sources for the last three years, and

(d) the amount spent on capital works each year during the last three years?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmakar): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 105]

#### Holidays

\*706-A. Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) the number of holidays granted to the Postal Staff in 1956 and 1957,

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Secretariat Staff and also the Postal Staff are allowed only 15 days casual leave in a year,

(c) whether the casual leave to the Postal Staff was 20 days in the year and that it has now been reduced, and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Administrative Offices

23 days each year

Post Offices

17 in 1956

16 for 1957

(b) Yes

(c) Yes, from 1-1-1951

(d) The revised limit of 15 days applies to employees of all the Departments of Government. It is not possible to have a longer period of casual leave for only P & T employees.

#### Bridge over Brahmaputra

\*708. Shrimati Manjula Debi: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to undertake the construction of bridge over Brahmaputra at Jogighopa or near Gauhati, and

(b) if so, when the construction work will start?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes. The question of constructing a road bridge or a tunnel across the Brahmaputra at Jogighopa or near Gauhati has been under consideration. Preliminary investigations show that a bridge would be more economical than a tunnel.

(b) Further detailed investigations are required before undertaking such a major project. The Railways have also to be consulted for a combined rail-road bridge. It will therefore not be possible to undertake the work of this bridge earlier than the third five year plan.

#### Community Development Blocks in Orissa

\*709. Shri B. C. Mullick: Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the entire amount allocated by the Central Government for Community Development work in Orissa in the year 1956-57 has been utilised by the State Government, and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) Yes, except that loan funds to the extent of about Rs 3 lakhs could not be utilised.

(b) The loan funds for irrigation works etc., could not be spent in full in the Community Projects and C.D. Blocks of 1952-53 and 1953-54 series. This is mainly attributable to the dearth of Engineering personnel, the

inadequate supply of building material and non-payment of the bills received at the fag-end of the year.

#### Gudur-Madras Railway Line

\*710. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of miles doubled from Gudur to Madras; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in doubling this track?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) 5 miles (between Madras and Tiruvottiyur).

(b) Doubling of this section is not considered necessary in view of Gudur-Renigunta conversion into Broad Gauge and the proposed patch doubling of Arkonam-Renigunta section.

#### डाक टिकट

\*७११. श्री कुसुमवन्त राय क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने का कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या गत अक्टूबर या नवम्बर, १९५६ के मास पास किता समय चार घाने के डाक टिकट जारी किये गये थे जिन पर जुआँघर बैलों की जोड़ी का छाप बना था, और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इन टिकटों के छापने के बहुत पहले कांग्रेस पार्टी को यह चुनाव चिन्ह मिला हुआ था ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय से राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) (क) और (ख) संभवतः माननीय सदस्य २६ जनवरी, १९५५ को जारी की गयी डाक-टिकट माला का हवाला दे रहे हैं, जिसमें प्रसिद्ध कंकरेज नसल के बैलों की जोड़ी के सिर तथा जुए सहित कन्बो को चित्रित करते हुए चार घाने के टिकट

सम्मिलित थे। यदि ऐसा ही है, तो इस टिकट पर छाये गये चित्र में किता राजनैतिक दल को निर्धारित किये गये प्रतीक का आभास नहीं है।

#### कृषि पंडित

\*७१२. श्री बाबूजीकी, क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि गत पाँच वर्षों में गेहूँ और धान के अधिकतम उत्पादन के लिये दिये जाने वाले पुरस्कारों तथा कृषि पंडित की उपाधियों के ऊपर कितना व्यय हुआ ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री ज० प्र० जैन) : गत पाँच वर्षों में गेहूँ और धान की अधिकतम उत्पादन के लिये "कृषि पंडितों" को इनाम और खिताब देने पर २७,००० रुपये का व्यय हुआ है।

#### उत्तर प्रदेश में बलिया बांध

\*७१३. श्री राधा मोहन सिंह क्या सिंचार तथा विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा बलिया जिले में गंगा की बाढ़ से बहुत सी भूमि को बचाने के लिये जो तटवर्ती बांध (१) बलिया से बेरिया और (२) बेरिया से मसारटोला तक बनाया जा रहा है उस का निर्माण-कार्य भारत सरकार द्वारा रोक दिया गया है,

(ख) यदि हा, तो इस के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार को विदित है कि गत वर्ष की भयंकर बाढ़ में उक्त बांध का बलिया से बेरिया तक का जो हिस्सा तैयार हो चुका है उस से मैकड़ों गांव तथा हजारों एकड़ भूमि की फसल बच गई

की तथा इस का बिहार की भूमि पर कोई विपरीत प्रभाव नहीं पड़ा ?

सिन्धु और विष्णु नदी (को स० का० पाटिल) (क) से (ग) अपेक्षित जानकारी का विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है ।  
[बेल्जियम परिशिष्ट ३, अ० १०६ संख्या १०६]

#### Harnessing of Assam Rivers

\*714. Shri Liladhar Kataki: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to harness the rivers of Assam, which have irrigation and power generating potentialities,

(b) if so the steps taken so far, and

(c) which of these rivers Government propose to harness and the progress, if any, so far made?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S K Patil): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) (i) Preliminary investigations on Dihing, Barak and Kopili rivers have been completed. Detailed investigations at a Dam site selected on Kopili are in progress. In addition, preliminary investigations on Borpham and Killing tributaries of the Kopili are in progress and those on Tirap, Namphuk and Namchuk tributaries of the Burhi Dihang and Subansiri will be started shortly. Besides collection of hydrological and other allied data in the Brahmaputra basin is also under progress.

(ii) Studies about the possibilities of power development on different rivers in Assam based on topographical maps are under way and are expected to be completed shortly.

(c) Decision in these cases can be taken only after the investigations and studies are completed.

#### Petrol Tank Wagons

\*715. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the total number of tank wagons for the transportation of petrol, in India,

(b) whether any representation has been received from oil dealers for more tank wagons, and

(c) if so, the steps taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The total number of petrol tank wagons in service on 20-5-1957, is

|             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| Broad gauge | 1,699 |
| Metre gauge | 1,060 |
| Total       | 2,759 |

(b) No

(c) Does not arise

#### Food situation in Tripura

\*716. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that at present Tripura is facing a great food shortage, and a large number of people are facing starvation,

(b) whether it is a fact that rice is rarely available in the rural areas even at the payment of high price e.g. Rs 30 to Rs 40 per maund, and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken so far to meet the demand of the people of Tripura?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). In order to meet the shortage of rice in Tripura, the Government of India have arranged to despatch 20,000 tons of rice from outside. This rice is now being distributed through about 90 fair price shops at the rate of Rs 18

per maund. The Tripura administration are confident that with this supply, they will be able to meet the requirements. There has been no starvation in any part of the State and although in certain parts the prices of rice in the open market have risen, the distribution of rice through fair price shops is having a salutary effect on prices.

#### Crop Estimation

\*717. **Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any prescribed system of crop estimation under which there is annual crop estimation for the country, State and District-wise,

(b) if so, the estimates for the years 1953-54 to 1956-57 for the State of UP with particular reference to the Eastern Districts of that State and for Bihar, Bombay and Punjab and Madhya Pradesh States, and

(c) the agency employed for this crop estimation?

**The Minister of Food & Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Yes. The State Governments follow prescribed procedure for annual estimation of crop acreages and output at different levels. The All-India crop estimates are based on the estimates framed by the States.

(b) A statement giving the available estimates is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 107].

(c) The agency employed is generally the revenue agency of the State Governments assisted by technical staff of trained statisticians.

#### Medical College at Kurnool

\*718. **Shri Venkatasubbalah:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have sought financial aid from the Central Government to

start a Medical College at Kurnool from July, 1957,

(b) the amount of financial aid asked for by the State Government; and

(c) if so, the amount given by the Central Government?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmakar):** (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) Rs 25 lakhs during the Second Five Year Plan period.

(c) No amount has been sanctioned for the purpose.

#### Construction of Railway Lines

\*719. **Shri M. C. Jain:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether Labour and Construction Co-operative Societies are given any concession or preference as against individual contractors in the matter of allotment of earth-work in the construction of Railway lines, and

(b) if so, the details of the concessions?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No concession or preference is given to recognised Labour and Construction Societies in the matter of allotment of earth-work in Construction of Railway lines.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Provision of Chairs in First Class Compartments

\*720. **Shri Mahendra Pratap:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that first class compartments on trains have not yet been provided with chairs for the convenience of short journey travellers?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** Yes. Only one 1st class coach, half of which has



been provided with chairs for short journey travellers, has been placed in service on an experimental basis.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No, Sir, not for the present

(b) Does not arise

सहकारी चीनी मिलें

\*७२१ { श्री श्रीनारायण दास :  
श्री डी० चं० शर्मा :  
श्री झूलन सिंह :  
श्री मोहन स्वरूप :  
श्री संगण्डा :  
श्री मानवेन्द्र शाह

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) अब तक सहकारी चीनी मिलें खोलने के लिये कितने लाइसेंस दिये जा चुके हैं और कितने आवेदन-पत्र अभी विचाग-चीन हैं,

(ख) उपर्युक्त बिषयों में राज्यवार आंकड़े क्या हैं, और

(ग) सहकारी चीनी मिलों में अक्षय जी के रूप में लगाने के लिये विभिन्न राज्यों को कितनी राशि मजूर की जा चुकी है और उसमें से अभी तक कितनी राशि दी जा चुकी है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अ० प्र० जैन) : (क) से (ग) पूछी हुई जानकारी का एक विवरण सभा की टेबल पर रख दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ३, अनुबन्ध संख्या १०८]

### Sugar Production

\*723. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to revise the policy regarding the revision target of sugar production and establishment of additional capacity in the shape of new factories and expansion in the existing factories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

यात्री सुविधाये

\*७२४. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह विदित है कि सीराष्ट्र में चलने वाली पश्चिम रेलवे की गाड़ियों के तीसरे दर्जे के डिब्बों की न तो सफाई होती है और न उनके शौचालय साफ होने हैं और न उनमें यात्रियों के लिये पानी की व्यवस्था है, और

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में समाचार-पत्रों में कितनी शिकायतें प्रकाशित हुई हैं जिनकी और सरकार का ध्यान आकषिप्त किया गया है ?

रेलवे उम्मीदों (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) :

(क) जी नहीं।

(ख) दो।

### National Savings Certificates

\*724-A. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agency commission is granted to the Posts and Telegraphs Department for the sale of National Savings Certificates, and

(b) if so, the rate of commission?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). No, but the P. & T Department are reimbursed the approximate cost incurred by the Department, at a rate of Re. 0-7-0 per transaction on each certificate

### Fakirgram—Amingaon Line

\*725. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to-

state the amount spent on protection works on the Railway line between Fakirgram—Amingaon (Assam) section of the North Eastern Railway during 1956-57?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** Rs 10 lakhs

#### **Hostel for Railway Employees' Children**

**\*726. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether land for the construction of a subsidized Hostel for 200 children of Railway Employees Schooling at Secunderabad has since been acquired;

(b) if so, when the construction of the building will commence; and

(c) when it is likely to be opened for admission?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) It is not proposed to acquire land for the purpose as land will be made available at Lallaguda

(b) Estimate and plans are under preparation

(c) After the building is ready

#### **Nagarjunasagar Project**

**\*727. Shri Balli Reddy:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the funds allotted for the Nagarjunasagar project by the Central Government for 1956-57 and 1957-58?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil):** An amount of Rs 396 lakhs was advanced as loan for the execution of the Nagarjunasagar Project during the year 1956-57. A provision for Rs. 550 lakhs has been made in the Central Government budget for 1957-58 for the purpose of advancing loans to the Andhra Pradesh Government in connection with the execution of the Nagarjunasagar Project

#### **Kurduwadi-Miraj Railway Line**

**\*728. Shri Sonawane:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far by the survey party on the narrow gauge line of the Central Railway between Kurduwadi and Miraj Railway Stations;

(b) the time that will be taken to complete this survey;

(c) whether the Railway authorities have plans to divert the present routes of the existing line; and

(d) if so, at what points and for what reasons?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). Field work is roughly 70 per cent done and is expected to be completed in July-August, 1957. It is expected the reports of the Engineering and Traffic Surveys will be ready by the end of December, 1957

(c) and (d) In order to obtain better river crossings, flatter gradients and easier curves suited to the Broad Gauge, certain deviations from the existing alignment are under consideration. The Railway has been advised to give due consideration to suggestions for alternative alignment.

#### **G. T. Express**

**\*730. Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the inordinate late running of the G. T. Express from Madras to Delhi and Delhi to Madras during last two months; and

(b) the steps taken to run the train to the schedule?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 109.]

### उत्तर प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय राजपथ

\*७३१ श्री राज बहादुर सिंह क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय राजपथों की सड़कों की लम्बाई कितने मील है और उनकी मरम्मत के लिये कितना वार्षिक व्यय मंजूर किया गया है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार इस पर विचार कर रही है कि गंगा के उत्तर में जो राजपथ बनारस से बलिया तक गया है उसको बलिया से आगे बढ़ा कर घाघरा पुल से उत्तर बिहार की सड़कों में मिला दिया जाये , और

(ग) यदि हा, तो यह काम कब तक पूरा हो जायेगा ।

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) (क) उत्तर प्रदेश में जो राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग बने हुए हैं उनकी लम्बाई १३६० मील है । जब से राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग योजना लागू हुई है, इन सड़कों की देखभाल और मरम्मत पर उठाया गया सालाना औसत खर्च ४५ ७८ लाख रुपये है ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) सवाल ही पैदा नहीं होता ।

### Air-conditioned Janata Express

\*732. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing—

(a) the number of passengers who travelled in the various Air-conditioned III Class Janata Express trains since their inauguration, zone-wise upto 31st March, 1957;

(b) the total earning on this account till 31st March, 1957; and

(c) the net loss or profit?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) A statement showing the average number of passengers who travelled by air-conditioned III Class trains per trip on the different routes is laid on the Table of the House. Zone-wise figures are not readily available.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 110]

(c) The cost of operation of individual trains is not ascertainable with accuracy and it is not, therefore, possible to work out the net loss or profit with regard to individual trains

### भू-परीक्षण प्रयोगशालाएँ

\*७३३ श्री भवत बर्मान क्या खस तथा कृषि मंत्री ७ मई १९५६ के तारकित प्रश्न संख्या १९७८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या देश में भू-परीक्षण की चौबीसों प्रयोगशालाएँ स्थापित हो गई हैं ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो वे अब तक कहाँ-कहाँ स्थापित की गई हैं ,

(ग) यदि कोई केन्द्र शेष हो तो उसे कहाँ खोलने का विचार है ।

(घ) इन स्थानों का चुनाव किस आ णर पर किया गया है ,

(ङ) प्रत्येक केन्द्र पर अनुमानित कितना खर्च होगा , और

(च) इस खर्च को पूरा करने के लिये क्या व्यवस्था की गई है भ्रया की जा रही है ?

खस तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री ब० प्र० जैन) (क) से (च) सभा की टेबल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है । [वेबिजे परिशिष्ट ३, अलग-अलग संख्या १११]

### Vendors at Mathura Junction

\*734. Shri Mahendra Pratap: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that vendors at Mathura Junction are being exploited by the contractors of the Railways, and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Some time ago, a complaint was received that a vending contractor at Mathura had sub-let his vending contract to vendors who, it was also alleged, were being ill-treated and harassed by the contractor.

Enquiries were made into the complaint, but the charges were not substantiated.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

### Service Conditions of Port Workers

\*734-A. Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether the Officer on Special Duty appointed to enquire into and report on certain service conditions of the port workers has made any interim recommendations, and

(b) if so, what are the recommendations and the action Government have taken on them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Not yet, Sir. The inquiry is expected to be concluded shortly.

(b) Does not arise.

### Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee

\*736. { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Sadhan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Starred Question No 123 on the 28th March, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations, and

(c) the action taken to implement them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The recommendations made by the Committee in their Report are under examination.

In due course, the Report will be released for information, and the accepted recommendations are expected to be implemented towards the end of the current year.

बावल कूटने और तेल निकालने की जांच  
सम्बन्धी समिति

\*७३७ { श्री श्रीनारायण दास  
श्री जांगड़े

क्या जांच तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने  
की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या बावल कूटने और तेल  
निकालने की जांच सम्बन्धी समिति की रिपोर्टों  
तथा सिफारिशों पर विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों  
की रायें प्राप्त की जा चुकी हैं

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार  
ने उन पर विचार कर लिया है,

(ग) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई नीति  
निर्धारित की गई है,

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो उस नीति की मुख्य  
बातें क्या हैं, और

(ङ) क्या सरकार मशीनों से बावल  
कूटने तथा तेल निकालने वाली मशीनों  
की संख्या का एक विवरण सभा-घटन पर  
रखेगी ?

काज तथा कुचि जंजी (जी ए० ए०  
जीन) : (क) से (ङ). सभा की टेबिल पर  
एक विवरण रख दिया गया है। [हेलिक्  
परिचित ३, अनुसूच संख्या ११२]

### Ferry Crafts

\*738. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 264 on the 25th July, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the two ferry crafts for crossing Brahmaputra at Jogighopa—Pancharatna (Assam) have been purchased; and

(b) if so, when they will be put into operation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Not yet. Tenders for the craft are under scrutiny. It is hoped that necessary orders will be placed by the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals by the end of June 1957.

### Co-operative Rice Mills

\*739. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any licences have been issued to the Co-operative Societies or to individual concerns for the installation of rice mills in each State after the Karve Report on the Cottage and Small-Scale Industries was made; and

(b) if so, the name of these States and the number of licences for each category in each State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). As the issue of licences is the concern of the State Governments, the Government of India have no information in this regard.

### Vizagapatnam-Hyderabad Passenger Train

\*740. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to run a fast passenger train from Vizagapatnam to Hyderabad and vice-versa; and

(b) if so, the date from which it will operate?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

### Vanaspati

\*741. Shri Radha Mohan Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Sugar and Vanaspati exercises any check or control over the quality of vanaspati produced in the country; and

(b) if so, in what way and what is the result, if any, of the examination of the samples of different manufacturers in the year 1956-57?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 113]

### By-passes around towns between Delhi and Agra

\*742. Shri Mahendra Pratap: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that by-passes are being built around towns between Delhi and Agra and that lands of peasants are being taken for the purpose?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications

(Shri Raj Bahadur): Yes, Sir. Several by passes are under construction and land necessary for aligning the new road has to be acquired and owners paid the compensation.

#### Training of Co-operative Personnel

495. Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 792 on the 13th December, 1955 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in the training of co-operative personnel giving State-wise position; and

(b) how far such trained personnel as at present can meet the requirements of the country?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A statement is appended. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 114].

(b) The present training arrangements are adequate to meet the existing requirements of the country.

#### Fishery

496. { Shri V. P. Nayar:  
Shri Kadiyan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that fishermen of the areas where motor boats operate in the sea for fishing have a complaint that owing to this type of fishing the fishing by country boats yields lesser quantities of fish; and

(b) if so, whether any special study of the problem has been made?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, the Government is aware of the complaint. But power vessels of more than 12 ton capacity are not allowed to fish within 7 miles of the coast.

(b) The Central Fisheries Research Stations are studying the relative efficiency of the fishing gear and habits of fish. These studies will enable fishermen to get better catches during different seasons in suitable grounds.

#### New Railway Lines in U.P.

497. Shri Kalika Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the new Railway lines proposed by the U.P. Government for construction in the eastern regions of Uttar Pradesh, especially in Azamgarh, Banaras and Basti districts for the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether the lines proposed for construction are Metre Gauge or Broad Gauge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The list of all new lines with their gauges recommended by the Uttar Pradesh Government is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 115.]

#### Waltair-Howrah Passenger Train

498. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that often the Waltair-Howrah passenger train travels without light; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Due to thefts of electrical equipments there were a few occasions when this train was without lights.

(b) Security measures have been tightened to combat the menace of thefts. Adequate Electrical maintenance staff is provided at all important stations for prompt attention to the electrical failures reported by the passengers.

#### Basta Post Office Building

499. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state at what stage the building for the Basta Post Office at Basta in the District of Balasore, Orissa stands at present?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Tenders for construction of the building have been invited by the C.P.W.D.

#### Passenger Amenities at Bhadrak Railway Station

500. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide electric fans in the 1st Class Waiting Room at Bhadrak Railway Station, Eastern Railway,

(b) if so, when the fans will be fitted;

(c) whether the 1st Class and 3rd Class Waiting Rooms there will be extended;

(d) if so, when the work will start,

(e) whether there was any request to open a 1st Class Ladies Waiting Room at the said station; and

(f) if so, steps taken in that regard?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, there is a proposal to provide electric fans in the 1st class waiting room at Bhadrak Railway Station

(b) The fans are expected to be provided during the current financial year.

(c) There is no proposal to extend upper class waiting rooms, but a proposal to extend the third class waiting hall is being considered in the scheme of remodelling of the station.

(d) The work of remodelling Bhadrak station is proposed to be

included in the Works Programme for the year 1958-59.

(e) and (f). No. There is already one combined 1st and 2nd class ladies waiting room at Bhadrak.

#### Bhadrak Sub-Post Office

501. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1353 on the 21st December, 1956 and state.

(a) whether the final decision to convert Bhadrak Sub-Post Office into a Head-Post Office has been taken;

(b) whether it is a fact that no quarters are provided for the subordinate staff of the Bhadrak Post Office,

(c) whether the department has received any representation from the staff in this respect; and

(d) whether there is any provision in the Second Five Year Plan for the construction of staff quarters of the Bhadrak Sub-Post Office?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The proposal to convert Bhadrak Sub Office into a Head Office was originally mooted in order to relieve the pressure of work in the Balasore Head Office which at that time was the Account Office of the Sub and Branch Offices in the Balasore, Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar Districts. Subsequently a Head Office has been opened in Baripada, the headquarters of Mayurbhanj District, and it is also under contemplation to open a Head Office at the headquarters of Keonjhar District. These measures will afford sufficient relief to the Balasore Head Office and eliminate the necessity of converting Bhadrak Sub Office. Furthermore, the opening of a Head Office in Bhadrak, which is situated at Sub-Divisional Headquarters, is itself not justified.

(b) Yes, except that quarters are provided for the Sub-Postmaster on the Post Office premises.

(c) Yes.

(d) The proposal for the construction of a few sets of quarters is under consideration.

#### New Post Offices in Orissa

502. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many new post offices were to be opened and the status of how many of the old ones were to be raised in the First Five Year Plan in the State of Orissa and how far the target fixed was implemented, district-wise;

(b) how many cases of opening of new branch post offices and raising the status of the old ones have been transferred from the First Plan period to that of the Second Plan in each district of that State and the reasons therefor;

(c) how many cases of opening of new branch post offices have been finalised to be opened in the Balasore district in the current year; and

(d) the location of such offices in the district?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 740 Post Offices were planned to be opened during the First Plan period district-wise as under:—Cuttack-43, Dhenkanal-42, Puri-46, Balasore-54, Mayurbhanj-25, Keonjhar-50, Ganjam-47, Koraput-32, Sambalpur-101, Bolangir-150, Sundergarh-75, Boudh-17, and Kalahandi-58, but actually 935 Post Offices were opened thus exceeding the target by 195. These Post Offices were opened district-wise as under:—

Cuttack-87, Dhenkanal-60, Puri-47, Balasore-74, Mayurbhanj-52, Keonjhar-58, Ganjam-75, Koraput-52, Sambalpur-108, Bolangir-158, Sundergarh-75, Boudh-27, and Kalahandi-62. There was no programme fixed to raise the status of old Post

Offices. The status of 30 Post Offices was however raised during the First Plan period.

(b) The question does not arise as the target fixed for the First Plan period was not only fully implemented but was substantially exceeded.

(c) Two.

(d) Sindhal and Sukendhia.

#### Vijapur-Ransipur Railway Line

503. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether lands were acquired by the then Baroda State to construct a railway line between Vijapur and Ransipur (Mehsana District);

(b) whether any compensation has been paid for these lands; and

(c) whether earth-work has been done on this projected railway line and if so, the cost of the earth-work?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Yes. Expenditure booked upto the end of March, 1950 is Rs. 50,864.

#### Vijapur-Ransipur Railway Line

504. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vijapur-Ransipur railway has been designed to connect Himatnagar of Sabarkantha; and

(b) whether Government have surveyed Vijapur-Ransipur-Himatnagar railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) No.



**Passenger Amenities**

**505. Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme for development and also provision of passenger amenities at the Parbhani, Manwath Road, Sailu and Nandu Stations on Manmad-Kachiguda line of Central Railway during the Second Five Year Plan has been drawn up; and

(b) the important developmental works completed or undertaken and passenger amenities provided during the First Five Year Plan at the above stations?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b) Two statements giving details are laid on the Table [See Appendix III, annexure No 116]

**Passenger Amenities**

**506. Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what passenger amenities have been provided at the stations on the Purna Hingoli Branch line of Central Railway during the First Five Year Plan, and

(b) whether any schemes of development and passenger amenities have been drawn up for these stations during the Second Five Year Plan?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to stations on the Purna-Hingoli Branch of Central Railway. The following passenger amenity works have been carried out during the First Five Year Plan:—

**At Basmathnagar.**

- (1) Provision of drinking water shelter
- (2) Improvements to water shelter (Provision of trollies)

**At Hingoli.**

- (1) Providing drinking water shelter.
- (2) Improvements to water shelter (Provision of trollies)
- (3) Providing shower bath, wash hand basin in the bathroom of Upper Class Waiting room.

(b) Yes, the proposals are given below:

**At Basmathnagar**

- (1) Extension of Class III Waiting hall (1960-61)
- (2) Provision of a crossing station between Purna and Surl (1957-58)

**At Nandapur**

Provision of a Block station between Surl and Hingoli (1957-58)

**At Purna**

- (1) Extension of Waiting Hall
- (2) Cover over platform
- (3) Provision of latrines and urinals
- (4) Cover over foot overbridge
- (5) Improvements to circulating area and approach road

**Bridge over River Saraswati**

**507. Shri K. U. Parmar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received from North Gujarat Vikas Mandal in connection with the unsafe conditions of the bridge on river Saraswati in Mehsana District, and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b).

A report about damages to the approach embankment of the bridge due to dumping of coal for use in the Railway pump house and removal of boulder pitching by bathers etc, has been received from the North Gujarat Vikas Mandal. This is being looked into.

#### Passenger Amenities

508. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that drinking water is served to the passengers in open buckets at Parbhani, Sailu and Manwath Road Stations on Manmad-Kaithiguda line of Central Railway, and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to serve drinking water in covered buckets?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Buckets with lids are being used at Parbhani and Sailu Stations while at Manwath Road ordinary buckets are being used at present.

(b) Arrangements are being made to supply buckets with lids to Manwath Road Station also.

#### Export of Foodgrains

510. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the type and quantity of foodgrains exported to neighbouring countries during 1957 (upto the end of April, 1957)?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): 1,000 tons of rice to Saudi Arabia.

#### Bhakra Nangal Project

511. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) whether the Planning Commission has allotted any amount to the Irrigation and Power Works under the Bhakra Nangal Project during 1956-57, and

(b) what are the main works of development undertaken?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) An amount of Rs 14.55 crores was advanced by the Central Government as loan to the Governments of Punjab (including PEPSU) and Rajasthan during 1956-57 for Irrigation and Power works.

(b) The main development works undertaken are as follows:

- (i) construction of roads in the areas served by the Bhakra canals,
- (ii) Establishment of mandies to facilitate the marketing of exportable surplus commodities produced in the areas irrigated by the project, and
- (iii) Development of factory and residential areas.

#### Import of Foodgrains

512. { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Supakar:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of wheat and rice imported during 1957 so far?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain). The following quantities of wheat and rice were imported from the 1st January, 1957 to the 15th May, 1957

|       |               |
|-------|---------------|
| Wheat | 82 Lakh tons  |
| Rice  | 42 Lakh tons. |

#### Railway Concessions during Festivals

513. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of persons who availed themselves of the passenger travel concessions given during the Dussehra, Dewali, and Christmas holidays in 1955-56 and 1956-57?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawas Khan):** A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 117.]

#### **Tuticorin Express Accident**

**514. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 70 on the 25th March, 1957 and state whether compensation has since been fully paid to the relatives of the victims of Madras-Tuticorin Express Accident at Ariyalur?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawas Khan):** Out of a total of 263 claims received compensation has been awarded by the Claims Commissioner in 235 cases. In 25 cases claims have been rejected. The remaining 3 cases are also expected to be disposed of shortly.

Of the 235 cases decreed by the Claims Commissioner, compensation has been fully paid in 210 cases.

It has been partly paid in 16 cases, owing to surety bonds not having been received from the guardians of minors.

In 9 cases payment is pending, as in 5 cases receipts are awaited from the parties and in the remaining 4 cases surety bonds from the guardians of minors are awaited.

Even in cases where payment is pending for want of surety from the guardians, or other reasons amounts have been deposited by the railway with the Claims Commissioner.

#### **U.N. Children's Fund**

**515. Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been allocated to India by the "Thirynation Executive Board of United

Nations Children's Fund" for a programme to improve, expand, and integrate training of physicians in chemical and social paediatrics;

(b) the centre of imparting such training;

(c) the amount allocated for this purpose;

(d) the number of fellowships and the duration of training;

(e) whether some allocations of funds for tuberculosis control, goitre control, pre-school and school feeding and maternal and child welfare have also been made, and

(f) if so, the amount received?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar):** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Madras Medical College Hospital

Rs. 38,000 dollar

(d) Eight fellowships each of one year's duration at the paediatrics Department of Madras Medical College.

(e) An allocation of \$2,045,500 has been made for these purposes and the break-up is as follows:

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| for Tuberculosis Control | \$1,31,000     |
| for Goitre Control       | \$ 16,500      |
| for Feeding Programme    | \$3,83,000     |
|                          | (freight only) |

|                                                                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| for MCH Services & Community Development Areas (including Drugs and Diet supplements) | \$1,515,000 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|

(f) The amount allocated by the UNICEF for the various programmes assisted by them in India are not given in cash to Government. As and when a particular scheme, assisted by UNICEF, develops, supplies and equipment are made available in kind and amounts for fellowships and salary subsidies are given in cash to the institutions concerned through Government.

जामनगर में बाल के डिब्बों का पटरी से  
उतर जाना

२१६ श्री रघुनाथ सिंह क्या रेलवे  
मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सब है कि शनिवार,  
३० मार्च, १९५७ को मालगाड़ी के छे डिब्बे,  
जो जामनगर से भोला जा रहे थे, जामनगर  
के मालगोदाम के पास पटरी से उतर गये  
और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसके क्या कारण  
हैं ?

रेलवे उपमन्त्री (श्री साहनवाज खान) :

(क) ३१-३-५७ को (न कि ३०-३-५७ को,  
जैसा कि सवाल में कहा गया है) २०-३० पर,  
जब १५०२ डाउन मालगाड़ी पश्चिम रेलवे  
के राजकोट-भोला मीटर लाइन सेक्शन के  
जामनगर स्टेशन में छूट रही थी, इंजन और  
इसके बाद के ३७ डिब्बे काँटा (Points)  
न १६ पर बिना किसी पूर्वदृष्टि के गुजर गये,  
जैकन ब्राल्लर के ६ डिब्बे और ब्रेकवान काँटे  
से गुजरते ही पटरी पर से बिल्कुल उतर गये ।

(ख) डिब्बों के पटरी से उतरने की वजह  
यह थी कि कांटो का ताला टूट गया था और  
जिस समय गाड़ी उनसे गुजरी, काँटे उलट  
गये ।

#### Railways Delegation to Japan

517. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the  
Minister of Railways be pleased to  
refer to the reply given to Starred  
Question No 1025 on the 11th Decem-  
ber, 1956 and state

(a) whether the report of the dele-  
gation that visited China and Japan  
to study the functioning of their Rail-  
way systems has since been finalised,  
and

(b) if so, whether it has been consi-  
dered?

The Deputy Minister of Railways  
(Shri Shahmawaz Khan): (a) and (b).

In December 1955 the Japanese Gov-  
ernment through their Ambassador in  
India, accorded an invitation to the  
Minister of Railways as well as the  
Chairman and a Member of the Rail-  
way Board to visit Japan and her  
Railways. As owing to pressure of  
work neither the Minister nor the  
Chairman was in a position to accept  
the invitation, two Members of the  
Board, Financial Commissioner and  
Member for Transportation, together  
with a Joint Director, were sent to  
Japan, and later to China in response  
to an invitation from the Government  
of China to visit the Chinese National  
Railways.

These visits were in response to  
invitations from the Governments of  
the countries concerned. On a careful  
examination of the courtesies involv-  
ed, it was decided that no formal  
report should be published.

#### Drinking Water Scheme for Punjab

518 Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the  
Minister of Health be pleased to state-

(a) whether any scheme under the  
National Water Supply and Sanitation  
Scheme for the supply of good drink-  
ing water for Punjab during the  
Second Five Year Plan period has  
been finalised, and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri  
Karmarkar): (a) and (b) Urban  
Water Supply Schemes at Ambala  
City and Nalagarh have been com-  
pleted. Skelton water supply schemes  
at Jullundur, Karnal and Yamunagar  
have also been brought into operation.

#### Wastage of Food

519. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the  
Minister of Food and Agriculture be  
pleased to state

(a) whether Government envisage  
any constructive and educative scheme  
to avoid wastage of food in the light  
of Prime Minister's speech delivered  
on the 13th April, 1957, and

(b) if so, the details of the same?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). During the control period certain austerity measures were introduced, regarding the number of persons, who could be entertained during marriages and other social occasions. After decontrol, these austerity measures were withdrawn. Under conditions of decontrol, if no legal restrictions are to be imposed, wastage can be avoided only by making the people conscious of the need for avoiding wastage. This can be done by appealing to them to avoid wastage as has been done by the Prime Minister.

No educative scheme as such has been introduced or is envisaged by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture for this purpose.

#### Railway Line from Talguppa to Sharavathi Hydro-electric Project

520. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Government of Mysore have proposed a scheme to extend the railway line from Talguppa Southern Railway to the site of Sharavathi Hydro-electric Project?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Yes. An estimate for carrying out a Preliminary Engineering Survey for an extension from Talguppa to Jog Falls on Sharavathi River as a deposit work has been sent to the Mysore Government for their acceptance.

#### Railway Lines in Mysore

521. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of miles of Railway line existing in Shimoga, Chikkamagalur Karwar, Mangalore and Coorg districts of Mysore State district-wise;

(b) the number of the district Headquarters of the above districts that are not having any train facilities; and

(c) the ratio of Railway miles in these districts to their areas?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). On the railways, such information is not compiled State-wise or district-wise, but by railway administrative units.

#### गंगानगर में तार तथा सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन-घर

५२२. श्री प० लालू बाबूराव : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को गंगानगर जिले में धनूपगढ़, गजसिंहपुर, विजयनगर आदि की साधारण जनता तथा व्यापारियों से वहाँ तार-घर व सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन-घर खोलने के सम्बन्ध में प्रत्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (१) धनूपगढ़—तार-घर तथा सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन-घर की मंजूरी दी जा चुकी है और तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य जारी है।

(२) गजसिंहपुर—तार-सुविधाएँ उपलब्ध हैं। सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन-घर के लिए कोई माँग नहीं की गई है।

(३) विजयनगर—प्राप्ता है तार-घर तथा सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन-घर खोले जाने की मंजूरी, धनूपगढ़ में उक्त सुविधाओं के उपलब्ध हो जाने पर दी जा सकेगी।

(४) हिन्दुमलकोट—होने वाली हार्नि के कारण इस प्रस्ताव को क्रियात्मक रूप नहीं दिया जा सकता है।

#### Loco and Carriage Workshop, Ajmer

523. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Clerks recruited in the Loco and Carriage Workshop,

Western Railway, Ajmer, during the years 1943 to 1946 in the grade of Rs. 30-50;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Pay Commission scales of pay have not yet been introduced in their case so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) 83

(b) No, Sir.

(c). Does not arise.

#### Acquisition of Land

524. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how much land was acquired by the Government of India during 1956 for public purposes, and

(b) whether the compensation due has been paid?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of Lok Sabha as soon as it becomes available.

#### Medical Council of India

525. Shri Warrior: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reorganisation Sub-Committee appointed sometime ago by the Medical Council of India had recommended that the incumbents of the posts of the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Council should be men with medical degree,

(b) if so, whether the present incumbents of these posts are holding medical degrees; and

(c) if not, why?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Reorganisation sub-Committee recommended that the

incumbent of the post of Assistant Secretary should be a medical man. The sub-committee did not make any specific recommendation that the incumbent of the post of Secretary should also be a medical man.

(b) and (c). The Medical Council of India, which is a statutory body did not accept the recommendation of the Sub-Committee in regard to the post of Assistant Secretary. The present Assistant Secretary, who is acting as Secretary, does not hold any medical degree. A medical man has been selected for appointment as Secretary to the Council.

#### Navigation in Ganga and Ghaghra

526. Shri Bishwanath Roy: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal for using Ganga upto Kanpur and the Ghaghra upto Fyzabad in connection with inland navigation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): It is not intended at present to develop navigation beyond Allahabad on the Ganga. As regards the Ghaghra, the possibility of extending navigation upto Bahram Ghat is under consideration.

#### Deep Sea Sampling Work

527. { Shri V. P. Nayar:  
Shri Kadiyan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive deep sea sampling work in connection with fishing has been undertaken at the instance of Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) It is presumed that the sampling referred to in the question is sampling for water. No comprehensive deep sea sampling for water in connection with fishing has been undertaken but

some limited work is done in the Central Marine Stations in close collaboration with the Naval and Merchant Marine vessels.

(b) Water samples are collected with the assistance of Naval vessels, Merchant ships and power fishing vessels belonging to the Government and private Companies, and analysed in the Central Marine Stations

बलिया स्टेशन को रेल से अनाज भेजने पर  
प्रतिबन्ध

५२७-क श्री सरजू पाण्डे क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि बलिया (उत्तर प्रदेश) रेलवे स्टेशन को फीरोजपुर, बिलासपुर, जबलपुर और भुसावल में रेल द्वारा अनाज भेजने पर प्रतिबन्ध क्यों लगा दिया गया है विशेषकर जबकि बलिया जिले के लोग अनाज की बहुत कमी महसूस कर रहे हैं और वहाँ अनाज बाहर में लाना नितान्त आवश्यक है ?

रेलवे डायरेक्टर (श्री ज्ञाननबाबू झा) : बड़ी लाइन के स्टेशनों में जो अनाज बलिया को भेजा जाता है उसका यानांतरण (Transshipment) मडुवाडीह में होता है। इसलिए इस रास्ते से अनाज का परिवहन इस रास्ते के यातायात के कुल कोटे और परिचालन की रोजबरोज की हालत पर निर्भर है। स्थानीय क्षेत्रों की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए खाद्य मंत्रालय के मुख्य सचिवन निदेशन (Chief Director of Movements) जो अनाज भेजते हैं, परिचालन की सब तरह की पाबंदियों के होते हुए भी, उसे पहले भेजा जाता है। इस समय मडुवाडीह के रास्ते अनाज भेजने पर कोई पाबन्दी नहीं है। पहली अप्रैल, १९५७ से २४ मई १९५७ तक मडुवाडीह के रास्ते मीटर लाइन से अनाज के १३४ डिब्बे बलिया पहुंचे।

### Branch Post Offices

528. श्री कालिका सिंह: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the scheme for opening branch post offices in rural areas throughout India along with the yearly statement, state-wise of such offices opened from 1953 to 1957, and give the figures particularly for Districts Azamgarh, Banaras, Ghazipur, Balha, Deoria, Gorakhpur, Jaunpur, Basti and Mirzapur?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): During the period prior to June '53, the policy was to open post offices in rural areas for villages with a population of 2000 and more, provided the Post Office could be opened within an annual loss of Rs 750/- With effect from June '53, the policy has been as follows —

- (1) Post Offices would be opened when they would either be remunerative or when non-returnable contributions to cover the estimated losses were forthcoming.
- (2) All Headquarters of Tahsils, Taluqas or Thanas would be provided with post offices, irrespective of the population served, provided the loss per post office would not exceed the limit of Rs 750/- P.A. If it did, each individual case would be decided on its merit.
- (3) Post Offices would be opened in groups of villages with a minimum population of 2000, within a distance of 2 miles provided no new post office was to be opened within 3 miles from an existing post office, unless it was self-supporting and providing further that the loss on each post office did not exceed Rs 750/- P.A. Priorities were to be given to villages situated at headquarters of Community Project areas or National Extension Service blocks; and

(4) Areas which are not developed on account of difficult terrain, sparse population or lack of literacy, were declared as backward areas and in these cases post offices would be opened under an increased limit of loss of Rs 1,000/- P.A., per post office. Statements in regard to post offices opened yearly Circle-wise and in the Districts of U.P. referred to, during the period are placed on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 118.]

बी० सी० जी० के टीके

५२६ बी सरजू पाण्डे क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या बी० सी० जी० टीका क्षय रोग की रोकथाम में सहायक सिद्ध हुआ है और यदि हाँ, तो किस हद तक ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) भारत में बी० सी० जी० टीके के प्रभावों का अभी तक मूल्यांकन नहीं किया गया है। ब्रिटिश चिकित्सा अनुसंधान परिषद् ने अपने परीक्षणों से यह परिणाम निकाला है कि बी० सी० जी० टीका क्षय-रोग की व्यापकता लगभग ५५ प्रतिशत कम कर सकता है।

क्षय रोग

५३०. { बी सरजू पाण्डे :  
श्री बाहमीकि :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) दिसम्बर, १९५६ तक प्रत्येक राज्य में क्षय रोग के कारण कितने व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई;

(ख) इन में से कितने व्यक्तियों की आयु २१ वर्ष से कम थी;

(ग) १९५५-५६ में कितने क्षय रोगियों को चिकित्सा के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार से आर्थिक सहायता प्राप्त हुई; और

(घ) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इस समय क्षय रोगियों को कोई आर्थिक सहायता दे रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) और (ख). क्षय रोग के कारण हुई मृत्युओं के बारे में पूरे आकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।

(ग) पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से विस्थापित १३२८ गरीब क्षय-रोगियों ने इलाज के लिए १९५५-५६ में स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय से आर्थिक सहायता प्राप्त की।

(घ) जी हाँ, भारत सरकार ने पाकिस्तान से विस्थापित गरीब क्षय-रोगियों को आर्थिक सहायता देना जारी रखा।

Coal Transport on N.-E. Railways

531. Shri Barman: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative freight charges for transport of consumer goods such as coal between Calcutta and Dhubri on North-Eastern Railway by direct all India rail route and by river-cum-rail route via Pakistan, and

(b) the total tonnage transported by either route during 1956-57 and the freight charges involved?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) A statement showing the required information is laid on the Table [See Appendix III, annexure No 119]

(b) Figures of tonnage transported are not readily available. They are being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha

Telegraph Office in Singana

532. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a telegraph office was sanctioned to be



opened in Singana in Jhunjhunu District some years back but the same has not been opened yet; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The proposal has been sanctioned. Materials are awaited for commencing the work

#### Purchase of wind Mills from Australia

532-A. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether it is a fact that India has purchased wind mills from Australia?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): No wind mills have been purchased by the Government of India from Australia. One hundred and sixty windmill pumping sets are, however, being procured through the India Supply Mission, Washington, for the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme of the Ministry of Health. The programme is being financed by the Government of USA under the International Co-operation Administration Programme. A contract for the supply of these sets has been entered into with a firm in Australia.

One windmill head mechanism was purchased in 1956 by the Council of Scientific Research for experimental purposes.

#### Overbridge at Amraoti Station

533. Shri K. G. Deshmukh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the reasons that led to dropping the scheme of construction of overbridge at the railway level-crossing near Amraoti railway station on Central Railways?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): The scheme for provision of the road-overbridge was not dropped, it had to be kept pending for the approval of the State Government.

This approval has since been received and the work is expected to be sanctioned shortly.

#### R.M.S. Building at Salem Junction

534. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received representations regarding insufficient accommodation in the R.M.S. Office building at Salem Junction, and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes

(b) The Sub Record Office and the Sorting Office were located on the Railway premises. The Sub Record Office was shifted to a rented building outside the Railway Station to release accommodation for the Sorting Office. The Railway Administration were also approached for constructing additional accommodation.

#### Tarasarai-Ryam Railway Line

535. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the North-Eastern Railway has undertaken to lay a railway line from Tarasarai R.S. on the Darbhanga Jainagar Branch of the North-Eastern Railway to Ryam in the district of Darbhanga on behalf of the Ryam Sugar Factory,

(b) if so, the terms and conditions on which this has been undertaken,

(c) the time within which this will be done; and

(d) the nature of railway line to be so laid?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No A

request has been received by the Railway Administration for laying a railway line from Tarsarai Station to Ryam Sugar Factory and this is under consideration.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

#### Electrification of Rayagada Station

536. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 557 on the 28th November, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the electrification scheme of the Rayagada Railway Station is completed;

(b) if so, when it was completed, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c) All departmental work pertaining to the electrification of this station has been completed by March 1957. However, it is not possible to energise this station as the necessary power has not been made available by the Orissa Government.

#### रेलवे में चोरी

५३७. श्री मोहन हारद्वज . क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ५ मई, १९५७ को बनेटा और नगरया-सादात (उत्तर रेलवे) स्टेशनों के बीच रेलवे में कोई चोरी हुई और बाद में ट्रक नम्बर यू० पी० एम० १५७६ से कई हजार रुपये का कपड़ा चुराया गया; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उक्त घटना का ज्वीरा क्या है ?

रेलवे कमिश्नी (श्री साहनबाबू जी) :

(क) जी हाँ। लेकिन कपड़ा किसी ट्रक से नहीं, एक मकान से बरामद हुआ, जिस पर पुलिस ने छापा मारा था।

(ख) एक बवान सवा घटन पर रक दिया गया है। [रेलवे वरिष्ठ ३, बरुबन्ध संख्या १२०]

#### Trunk Telephone System

538. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trunk telephone system has been introduced between Cuttack and Bhubaneswar (Orissa);

(b) whether it is a fact that the telephone charges for 4 minutes are annas four;

(c) whether it is a fact that the telephone charge for the same time is annas two in the Calcutta and Dum Dum areas; and

(d) if so, the basis for determining the charges?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes

(b) A special system of trunk charging known as toll charging is being applied. The charges are four annas for each unit period of three minutes or fraction thereof.

(c) Calls between Calcutta and Dum Dum are local calls and are not timed. The charges for local calls are eight calls to the rupee for ordinary subscribers and 10 calls to the rupee for Own Your Telephone subscribers

(d) All exchanges in the main Calcutta area form part of a unit fee area and calls between them are charged as local calls. Calls between the main exchanges and the other outlying exchanges like the Budge Budge Sirampur, Barrackpore, Chandernagore, are however, charged as trunk calls on toll basis.

Cuttack and Bhubaneswar do not form part of the same local exchange area and calls between these have to be charged on trunk call basis. The trunk call charge rate is 48 annas for every 12½ miles upto a distance of 100 miles. The trunk charge between Cuttack and Bhubaneswar would thus have been 10 annas per call on this basis. However, the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs has fixed a charges of Re -/4/- per unit call, as for toll calls, as a special case because of the high community of interest

#### **Bridges on Rivers**

539. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have approached Central Government for aid in the construction of bridges over the rivers Birupa, Brahmani, Mahanadi during the Second Five Year Plan, and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b) Bridges over the rivers Mahanadi and Brahmani on National Highway No 6 (Bombay - Nagpur - Sambalpur-Cuttack Road) are already completed. The river Birupa does not cross this National Highway. The construction of bridges across the rivers Birupa, Brahmani and Mahanadi on National Highway No 5 (Madras Cuttack-Balasore-Baharagora Road) is provided in the Second Five Year Plan.

#### **Puri-Konarak Road**

540. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether the Puri-Konarak Road (Orissa) for which a substantial grant has been made to promote tourist interest has been completed, and

(b) if so, when?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications

(Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The road portion of the project is expected to be completed by June 1958. Work on the bridges, the estimates for which are under consideration, will be started after the estimates are sanctioned.

#### **Hyderabad -Visakhapatnam Air Service**

541. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1337 on the 21st December, 1956 and state

(a) whether arrangements for Hyderabad-Visakhapatnam air flights have been finalised, and

(b) if so, the frequency of the flights?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The Indian Airlines Corporation have not finalised arrangements for linking Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam by air. The introduction of this service will be considered after the Viscounts, due to be received shortly, commence operating the trunk routes.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **New Railway Lines in Andhra**

542. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of new lines surveyed in Andhra to link Hyderabad the capital of Andhra Pradesh?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): The following surveys in Andhra Pradesh have been included in the Works Programmes before the New Andhra Pradesh with its capital at Hyderabad was formed —

(i) Nizamabad—Ramagundam

(ii) Macherla—Maidukur

(iii) Nellore—Maidukur

Macherla-Nandi Konda line is being constructed at the cost of the Nagarjuna Sagar Dam Project. The other

two lines are not included in the Second Five Year Plan of the Railway. Since the formation of the new Andhra Pradesh no new surveys have been approved.

### Libraries

543. Shri Balmiki. Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of staff libraries at present in his Ministry,

(b) the staff employed at present in the ICA R Library,

(c) the amount spent by the ICA R on the maintenance of the Library during 1956-57, and

(d) the average number of staff who visit and make use of the library daily?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) (a) There is one Staff Library in the Ministry. In addition two Attached Offices of the Ministry located in the main building of the Ministry (ICA R and the Directorate of Economics & Statistics) have a library each for their respective use.

(b) The staff employed in the ICA R Library is as follows—

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| (i) Librarian               | One   |
| (ii) Asstt Librarians       | Two   |
| (iii) Junior Tech Assistant | One   |
| (iv) UDC                    | One   |
| (v) LDC                     | Four  |
| (vi) Library Attendants     | Two   |
| (vii) Dafatry               | Two   |
| (viii) Peon                 | One   |
| (ix) Farash                 | Three |

(c) Rs 34,090/-

(d) Between 30 to 40 per day

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में स्वच्छ पानी का सभरण

५४४. श्री बाल्मीकी क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में साफ किये हुए पानी का सभरण करने में किन-किन राज्यों में विशेष प्रगति की है, और

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार को कितना व्यय करना पड़ा ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमचकर) (क) और (ख) आवश्यक सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है जो पूरी हो जाने पर यथाशीघ्र सभा की मेज पर रख दी जायेगी।

असिस्टेंट सर्जनों के लिये छात्र-वृत्तियाँ

५४५. श्री अमर सिंह डमर क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या कोलम्बो योजना के अन्तर्गत विदेशों में उच्च शिक्षा के लिये छात्रवृत्ति प्राप्त करने के बारे में असिस्टेंट सर्जनों के सब आवेदन-पत्र अस्वीकृत कर दिये गये हैं ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमचकर) सरकार केवल उन असिस्टेंट सर्जनों के आवेदन-पत्रों पर विचार कर रही है जिन के पास अधिस्तातक-डिग्री है और अध्यापन, अनुसन्धान अथवा विशेषित कार्यों पर वे नियुक्त किये गये हैं या जिनके बारे में उत्तरदायी अधिकारियों द्वारा प्रशिक्षण की अवधि पूरी हो जाने पर वैसी ही जगहों पर नियुक्ति की गारंटी दी गयी है।

### Sleepers for Railways

546. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what was the total demand of wooden sleepers for the Indian Railways during 1956-57?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Against their total demand of 90 lakh track sleepers and 33 lakh cubic feet of special sleepers for switches, crossings and bridges, the Railways asked for the following minimum number in wood:

|              |                          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Broad Gauge  | 16.5 lakhs—51 lakhs cft. |
| Metre Gauge  | 26.0 lakhs—39 lakhs cft. |
| Narrow Gauge | 4.5 lakhs—5 lakhs cft.   |

Switches and crossings  
& bridge timber —33 lakhs cft.

128 lakhs cft.

**Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee**

547. { Shri P. L. Barupal:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri Sanganna:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee in recommendation Nos 97-99, has pressed for collection and preservation of glands and hormones of animals in big cities on Scientific lines and to establish slaughter houses,

(b) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry have requested the State Governments to establish such slaughter houses on scientific lines with storage facilities particularly in big cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, Kanpur, Hyderabad etc; and

(c) if so, the progress made so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b) Yes

(c) The State Governments were asked for their views in the matter and their replies have been received. The question has also been referred to the Development Council for Drugs and Pharmaceuticals under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Council is examining the question of establishing slaughter houses on modern lines

**Wagons for Cement**

548. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Director of Rail movements at Calcutta received, during the period, December 1956 to May 15, 1957—any requests from the Regional Hony Cement Adviser, Patna and the Consul General for Nepal at Calcutta, for immediate allotments of railway wagons on priority level for transport of cement to Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the arrangements made, and

(d) the latest position in regard to this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawas Khan): (a) Yes

(b) The total demand for the period in question was 353 BG wagons

(c) So far 196 BG wagons have been allotted, and movement arranged in consultation with the Consul General for Nepal in Calcutta

(d) The outstanding demands have been revised by the Consul General for Nepal and according to the latest communication received from him there were only 56 outstanding wagons on 22-5-57

**Over Bridge at Naya Bazar, Dhanbad**

549. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the question of constructing a road over-bridge at the railway level-crossing at Naya Bazar, Dhanbad on the Eastern Railway is under consideration, and

(b) if so, at what stage the matter is?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah nawas Khan): (a) Yes

(b) The proposal regarding the location of the overbridge is still under examination by the State Government

**कोसी बन्ध**

५५० श्री श्रीनारायण दास क्या सिवार्ड और बिजुन मनी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार की कोसी नदी में बाढ़ आने के कारण वहाँ के बन्ध का निर्माण-कार्य रुक गया है,

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो कितना काम रुका हुआ है, और

(ग) क्या इस बाढ़ से पानी के निकास के फाटक (sluicer) बनाने के काम में भी रुकावट हुई है ?

सिपाई और बिजुव मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटील) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) उत्तर नकारात्मक है ।

#### Kendrapara-Olava Railway Line

551. **Shri B. C. Mallick:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a new branch Railway line from Kendrapara Railway Station to Olava via Kendrapara town in Orissa State; and

(b) if so, when the proposal is likely to be finalised?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Trains on Kanpur Central-Lucknow Line

552. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to speed up running time of trains on Kanpur Central-Lucknow line; and

(b) if so, when it is expected to materialize?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). The trains on the Kanpur Central-Lucknow Section are already booked to run with a speed ranging from 35 to 50 miles per hour and there is no plan for further speeding up of these trains.

#### Special Police Establishment

553. **Shri A. K. Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases referred by the Special Police Establishment for

sanction of criminal prosecution from 1953 to 1956; and

(b) the number of cases in which sanction was held up and reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

#### Kotah-Chittorgarh Railway Line

554. **Shri Onkar Lal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1256 on the 3rd September, 1956 and state:

(c) when the new Railway line from Kotah to Chittorgarh will be opened, and

(b) the estimated expenditure to be incurred by the Railway Administration on this line?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). The survey is still in progress. Till such time the survey report is received and examined by the Board, it is not possible to give the estimated expenditure to be incurred in constructing the line. This project is not included in the Second Five Year Plan of the Railway.

#### Manmad-Nardana Railway Line

555. **Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Survey of the Railway Line from Manmad to Nardana via Malegaon has been completed;

(b) the total estimate of the laying of new lines; and

(c) when the work will be started?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) to (c). The Preliminary Engineering and Traffic Surveys for this project were carried out last in the year 1946-47 when the cost of construction was estimated to Rs. 87,43,500. The project

was abandoned as it was not financially justified. Present day cost will be much more. It is not proposed to revive the consideration of this project.

#### Sugar Recovery

554. Shri Khushwaqt Rai: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the Sabha showing the average recovery of sugar per day in the different sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh since the 8th May, 1957?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 121.]

#### Sugar Mill at Pallia Kalan

557. Shri Khushwaqt Rai: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to install a sugar mill at Pallia Kalan, District Kheri, Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to that effect?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir. M/s Pallia-Bhira Co-operative Cane Society Ltd., have applied for a licence to establish a sugar factory at Pallia Kalan, District Kheri.

(b) The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

#### Over-bridge at Shoranoor Railway Station

558. Dr. K. B. Menon: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the public are seriously inconvenienced by the constant closure of the Railway gate at the level crossing near Shoranoor Railway Station on Kozhikode-Madras Railway line; and

(b) whether Government will undertake the construction of the over-bridge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) The construction of an over-bridge in replacement of the level crossing would be taken up if recommended by the State Government and provided they are willing to bear their share of the cost of construction as per Rules.

#### Charge Sheet of Railways Employees

559. Shri V. Raja: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases showing names where charge sheets have been issued to railwaymen for collecting Trade Union subscriptions and issuing letters to the press as Trade Union representatives;

(b) the number of cases where charge sheets have been issued for taking part in local board elections and General Elections; and

(c) the number of cases showing the names and designations in whose cases the President has satisfied himself that their services are prejudicial to national security?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Action is not taken against any railway servant for his activities as a Trade Union official, but only against violation of the provisions of the Railway Services (Conduct) Rules, 1956. Particulars of such cases in which railway servants were chargesheeted during the period from 1.4.56 to 31.3.57 are given in the statement laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 122.]

(b) and (c). A statement giving the required information for a period of one year from 1.4.56 to 31.3.57 is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 122.]

# DEATH OF SHRI PRABHAKARAN THAMPAN

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Prabhakaran Thampam, who died on the 28th May, 1957, in Coimbatore. He was a Member of the old Central Legislative Assembly.

I am sure the House will join with me in conveying our condolences to his family. The House may kindly stand in silence for a minute to express its sorrow.

(The Members then stood in silence for a minute).

## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

### SATYAGRAHA CAMPAIGN IN CHANDIGARH

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion tabled by Shri Vajpayee. It reads:

"The failure of the Union Government in solving the language issue in the Punjab resulting in the starting of satyagraha campaign by the Arya Samaj in Chandigarh since the 30th May".

How is this the responsibility of the Central Government?

श्री बाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) आज के दैनिक पत्रों में पंजाब के मुख्य मंत्री सरदार प्रताप सिंह कैरो ने . . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो सब जानते हैं लेकिन

how is the Central Government concerned about it:

श्री बाजपेयी : मुख्य मंत्री का कहना है कि पंजाब में जो भी भाषा नीति अपनाई जा रही है वह केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा निश्चित की गई नीति है और केन्द्रीय सरकार के परामर्श के बिना वह कोई परिवर्तन नहीं कर सकते हैं। पंजाब एक सीमान्त प्रदेश है और पंजाब में बटने वाली घटनाओं से यह संसद या केन्द्रीय सरकार उदासीन नहीं रह सकती है।

Mr. Speaker: May I know what the hon. Home Minister has to say?

गृह-मंत्री मंत्री (वंदित गो० ब० प०) : मुझे भी बड़ा खेद है कि इस प्रकार का आन्दोलन पंजाब में शुरू किया गया है। हम लोग यह आशा कर रहे थे कि पंजाब के सभी मतभेद वाले प्रश्न हल हो गये हैं और पंजाब जैसे महत्वपूर्ण प्रदेश में अब सब मिलजुल कर काम करेंगे। फिर इस पार्लियामेंट में जो निश्चय हुआ है उसके अनुसार सब बातें हो रही हैं और देश के हर एक समझदार आदमी को अपनी तरफ से समर्थन कर के उन्हें और भी प्रोत्साहन देना चाहिए। उसके विरुद्ध कोई आन्दोलन हो तो बड़े दुःख की बात है। परन्तु जो कोई निश्चय है वे मुदत हुई तब हुए थे। अगर कोई आदमी ऐसी बात का विरोध करे तो फिर यह केन्द्रीय सरकार क्या उसमें कर सकती है या प्रादेशिक सरकार क्या कर सकती है, यह समझ में नहीं आता है। मैं तो जिन सज्जन ने यह प्रस्ताव दिया है, उन में प्रार्थना करूंगा कि वह आर्य समाज के नेताओं और लोगों में अनुरोध करे कि वे इस प्रकार के अपने आन्दोलन को छोड़ दें। यह देश के हित में नहीं है और इसे आपस में मिलो और हिन्दुओं के अन्ध भेल बढ़ने के बल्ले में लिखाव बढ़ेगा जोकि देश के लिए और पंजाब के लिए अहितकर है और सब को मिलजुल कर काम करना चाहिए। जो बातें निश्चित हुई हैं वे इन सब के हित की हैं। कम से कम एडजोर्नमेंट मोशन के लिए तो कोई मामला ही नहीं है। खेद मुझे भी है लेकिन दोष उनका है जो आन्दोलन कर रहे हैं न कि उनका जो नीति निश्चित हुई है उसके अनुसार कार्य कर रहे हैं।

Shri Vajpayee: May I make a submission?

श्री गृह-मंत्री महोदय ने जो कुछ कहा है उसके सम्बन्ध में मुझे इतना ही निवेदन करना है कि यदि केन्द्रीय सरकार पंजाब सरकार और आर्य समाज के नेताओं के बीच में जो विवाद चल रहा है उसके सम्बन्ध में स्वयं कोई पक्ष



न लेती और दोनों में समझौता कराने का प्रयत्न करती तो सत्याग्रह करने की नीयत न आती। आज पंजाब में ऐसी स्थिति है कि मानापिताओं को

**Mr. Speaker:** So far as an adjournment motion is concerned, first of all, I must be satisfied before I give my consent. Then 25 or 50 Members, as the case may be, will rise in their seats. Thereafter, it will be taken up for discussion. This is not the time for such discussion. All that I wanted to know was whether *prima facie* there was any default on the part of the Central Government here. If there was, I would certainly allow the adjournment motion. But I do not find that there is any responsibility of the Central Government which they have not discharged in this case. Therefore, I am not called upon to give my consent to this adjournment motion.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ORGANISATION AND METHODS DIVISION

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Third Annual Report (1956-57) of the Organisation and Methods Division. [Placed in Library See No S-76/57]

##### REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE VIGILANCE DIVISION

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Administrative Vigilance Division for the year ending 31st March, 1957. [Placed in Library See No S-77/57]

##### NOTIFICATIONS UNDER MINES AND MINERALS (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT) ACT

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** Sir, on

behalf of Shri Keshava Deva Malaviya, I beg to lay on the Table, under section 10 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, a copy of each of the following Notifications

- (1) Notification No S.R.O. 1691, dated the 25th May, 1957 making certain further amendment to the Mineral Concession Rules, 1949.
- (2) Notification No S.R.O. 1692, dated the 25th May, 1957 making certain further amendments to the Mineral Concession Rules, 1949.
- (3) Notification No S.R.O. 1693, dated the 25th May, 1957 making certain amendment to the Mining Leases (Modification of Terms) Rules, 1956.
- (4) Notifications No S.R.O. 1694, dated the 25th May, 1957 making certain further amendments to the Mineral Concession Rules, 1949. [Placed in Library See No S-78/57]

##### AMENDMENT TO PUBLIC DEBT RULES

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 28 of the Public Debt Act, 1944, a copy of the Notification No S.R.O. 1288, dated the 27th April, 1957, together with the Explanatory Note, making certain amendment to the Public Debt Rules, 1946. [Placed in Library See No S-79/57]

##### DIRECTIONS ISSUED BY THE SPEAKER UNDER THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

**Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of Directions Nos 71A and 103A issued by the Speaker under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library See No S-80/57]

**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA**

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following three messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

(i) 'In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 30th May, 1957, agreed without any amendment to the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1957, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th May, 1957.'

(ii) 'In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 30th May, 1957, agreed without any amendment to the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Bill, 1957, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th May, 1957.'

(iii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Monday, the 27th May, 1957, adopted the following motion concurring in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from the Rajya Sabha to the Public Accounts Committee for the period commencing from the 1st June, 1957 to the 30th April, 1958:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from the Rajya Sabha to associate with the Public Accounts Committee of the Lok Sabha for the period commencing from the 1st June 1957 to the 30th April, 1958 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven members from among themselves to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that at the sitting of the Rajya Sabha held on Thursday, the 30th May, 1957, the Chairman declared the following Members of the Rajya Sabha to be duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Shrimati Pushpalata Das
2. Shri P. T. Leuva
3. Shri Shyam Dhar Misra
4. Shri R. M. Deahmukh
5. Shri M. Govinda Reddy
6. Shri Jaswant Singh
7. Shri J. V. K. Vallabharao.'

**PETITIONS****PETITION RE. INDIAN RAILWAYS ACT**

Dr. Gangadhara Siva (Chittoor-Reserved—Sch. Castes): Sir, I beg to present two petitions relating to the Indian Railways Act and the Rules framed thereunder.

**PETITION RE. INDIAN POST OFFICE RULES**

Dr. Gangadhara Siva: Sir, I beg to present a petition relating to the amendment of the Indian Post Office Rules.

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE****SECOND REPORT**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 30th May, 1957"

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 30th May, 1957."

The motion was adopted.

# CALLING ATTENTION TO MAT- TERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Mr. Speaker: So far as calling attention notices are concerned, ordinarily, under the Rules, not more than one calling attention notice can be taken up on any particular day. As these matters are important, as a matter of concession to the Members, I wanted to establish a convention on the last day, if there are matters of any great importance, I will allow a number of such notices to be taken up.

Today we have got so much of other business that if I go on allowing every one of these statements to be made and read here, it will take a long time of the House. Hon. Members are quite aware that if the statements are made, no questions can be put on them excepting having the pleasure of hearing them in the open House. Nothing more can be done. Therefore, to avoid spending away the time of the House, I would direct that all these statements be laid on the Table of the House. Hon. Members may look into any or all of them. Therefore, these statements may kindly be placed on the Table by the hon. Ministers.

## LOW INCOME GROUP HOUSING SCHEME IN U.P.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Statement made on the 20th May, 1957 at Gorakhpur by the Minister of Irrigation, Justice and Co-operation, U.P. regarding the Low Income Group Housing Scheme in the U.P."

The Minister of Works, Housing & Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the Table.

The attention of the Government of India has been drawn to a press Report in regard to a statement made at Gorakhpur on the 20th of May, 1957, by Shri Ali Zaheer, Minister for Irrigation, Justice and Co-operation, Government of U.P., in which it was alleged that the Low Income Group Housing Scheme, which aimed at providing cheap residential accommodation to people of the low income groups had run into difficulty for lack of funds. It was also alleged that the entire amount of Rs. 3.00 crores that had been sanctioned to the State Government had been disbursed, with the result that several thousands of applications for financial aid were lying undisposed of with that Government. The Government of India was also blamed for obstructing the activities regarding the welfare of the people of Uttar Pradesh.

The Government of India understand from the State Government that all that the Minister intended to convey to the Press was that the U.P. Government had received and disbursed a sum of Rs. 3.10 crores during the last two years for constructing Low Income Group Houses and that the amount allocated by the Government of India for the year 1957-58 was inadequate for this purpose. The State Government have further advised that the words "blamed the Government of India for hampering progress of two important schemes undertaken by the Government of India" were words used by the Press and not by the Minister.

The facts are that the Low Income Group Housing Scheme came into operation in November, 1954. The U.P. Government asked for an allocation of Rs. 6.60 crores upto the end of the First Plan period ending 31st March, 1956, against which the Government of India could allocate a sum of Rs. 3.00 crores only as the State Government's share out of the total provision of Rs. 21.53 crores. The State Government could, however, actually draw only Rs. 1.55

[Shri K. C. Reddy]

crores during this period. During the Second Five Year Plan period, the U.P. Government asked for an allocation of Rs. 33.00 crores, against which the Government of India, on the advice of the Planning Commission, could make an allocation of Rs. 4.83 crores only as the State Government's share, against the total provision of Rs. 40.00 crores for the entire Plan period.

Out of a total of Rs. 4.83 crores earmarked for the U.P. Government under this Scheme, a sum of Rs. 1.45 crores was disbursed to the State Government in the first year of the Second Five Year Plan (1956-57). A further sum of Rs. 0.49 crore has been earmarked for the U.P. Government during the year 1957-58. The balance amount will be disbursed to the State Government during the remaining three years of the Second Five Year Plan period.

All allocations under the Scheme are made on the advice of the Planning Commission, keeping in view the availability of funds for various Housing Schemes of the Government of India.

**CLOSING DOWN OF SAYAJI JUBILEE  
COTTON AND JUTE MILLS, SIDHPUR  
GUJARAT**

Shri M. B. Thakore (Patan): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Situation resulting from closing down of Sayaji Jubilee Cotton and Jute Mills, Sidhpur, Gujarat."

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the Table.

**Statement**

According to the information given to Government the Sayaji Jubilee, Cotton and Jute Mills, Sidhpur, in Bombay State, served a notice of closure in March, 1957 and subsequently closed down on the 24th April, 1957, on account of financial difficulties. The number of workers affected by the closure is 1064.

2. As the House is aware, an Ordinance was promulgated on the 27th April, 1957, which provided for the payment of retrenchment compensation even on *bonafide* closure. This Ordinance has retrospective effect from the 1st December 1956. The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1957, which seeks to replace this Ordinance has just been passed by both the Houses of Parliament. The position of the Mills is being looked into from the point of view of deciding the retrenchment compensation due to workers. Government will take suitable steps to see that workers are not deprived of any benefits due to them under the law.

3. Representations have been received from the Indian National Textile Workers Federation, the Textile Labour Association and other unions of employees that Government should take action under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act and take over the mill and take such other action as is considered necessary to avert unemployment. I may inform the House that the Textile Commissioner, Bombay has been asked to undertake a survey of this mill immediately, with a view to finding out what steps could be taken to put the mill in a better working order. Enquiries are also being made to have the mill restarted by giving it on lease. The question of taking other action under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act is also under consideration.

**PROPOSED STRIKE BY P & T EMPLOYEES**

**Shri Sanganna (Koraput—Reserved—Sch Tribes).** Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Transport and Communications to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon —

“Proposed strike by Post and Telegraph employees and steps being taken to avert it”

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the Table

**Statement**

The Honourable Members will recall that on May 22nd, 1957 I had made a statement on the question of “go slow” movement by the telegraphists of the P & T Department. Later reports indicate that the position has not yet returned to normal in some of the larger telegraph offices in the UP, Madras and Bihar Circles

As the Honourable Members may be aware further, the Federation of the P and T Employees had submitted a fairly large number of demands in the shape of a Charter and these have been the subject of discussion between Shri Raj Bahadur Ji, Minister of State and the representatives of the Federation. I also propose to meet their representatives at New Delhi in the second week of June. Up-to-date, Government have had no official intimation of any intention on the part of P & T Employees to change over from the method of negotiations to that of strike

**NON-ACCEPTANCE OF SALARY BY  
WORKERS OF NO 2 WING, IAF  
STATION, POONA**

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Defence to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon —

“Non-acceptance of salary for the month of April, 1957 by the

workers of No 2 Wing, IAF Station, Poona”

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the Table

**Statement**

Early this month, the IAF Kamgar Union, Poona, informed the Ministry that the civilian employees of No 2 Wing, IAF Station, Poona, were unwilling to accept their pay for the month of April, 1957, on account of the withholding of the payment of house rent allowance from their salary for the month of April, 1957. According to the information received upto the 27th May, 1957, 460 Class IV employees out of a total of 520 originally refused to accept their pay. Of these 460, 230 employees have since received their pay

2 Government have constructed 250 quarters for Class IV employees of No 2 Wing, IAF Station, Poona. These quarters were offered to Class IV employees of the IAF Station but they refused to accept them. As the quarters in question were specifically constructed for the Class IV employees of the IAF Station, Poona, their refusal to occupy these quarters should result in the forfeiture of house-rent allowance. It may be stated that house rent allowance is not admissible to Government servants who are eligible for Government accommodation and to whom such accommodation has been offered and has been refused by them. Accordingly, house rent allowance has not been paid for the month of April, 1957, to such of the employees of the establishment who have refused Government accommodation offered to them. The demand of the employees that they should be continued to be paid house rent allowance notwithstanding their refusal to occupy the Government accommodation offered to them is not justified in view of the fact that the Government having specifically provided accommodation for these employees, at considerable expenditure to the State Exchequer,

[Sardar Majithia]

cannot at the same time continue to pay house rent allowance to such employees.

**REFUSAL BY DELHI ADMINISTRATION  
OF OFFER OF T. B. ASSOCIATION TO  
CONSTRUCT A HALL.**

Shri Radha Raman (Chandni Chowk): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Health to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Refusal by Delhi Administration of T.B. Association offer to construct a hall for T.B. patient."

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-mar): Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the Table.

**Statement**

In November, 1956, the Delhi State Tuberculosis Association informed the Delhi Administration that, by a Resolution, the Association had decided to pay Rs. 1,50,000 to the Delhi Administration for the construction of a hutment-type ward for 150 T.B. patients in the premises of the Silver Jubilee Tuberculosis Hospital, Kingsway, Delhi. This offer was examined by the Delhi Administration in consultation with the Director of Health Services, Delhi, but they could not accept the offer as it stood, because there was no provision in the Delhi State Plan for maintenance of an additional ward of 150 beds in the Silver Jubilee T.B. Hospital, the annual expenditure of which was expected to be over Rs. 2 lakhs. Further, it was felt that the type of ward which could accommodate 150 beds and put up at a cost of only Rs. 1,50,000, would call for correspondingly heavy expenditure in the way of maintenance and annual repairs. In the circumstances, the Delhi Administration regretfully de-

lined the offer. At the same time, they informed the Association through the Director of Health Services, Delhi, in March, 1957 that if the Association had no objection, they would be glad to accept the donation if it could be utilised for the purchase of hospital equipment, etc., for the beds already existing in the T.B. Hospital. No reply has so far been received by the Delhi Administration to this suggestion. However, the Honorary Secretary of the Association informally discussed the matter with the Delhi Administration authorities a few days ago and explained that there was a recently constructed ward which had not been brought into use and if that ward could be suitably named to represent the people's efforts in collecting funds through the T.B. seals' sale, the Association would be willing to make the donation. A formal communication on the subject from the Delhi State T.B. Association is awaited by the Delhi Administration.

**ARREST OF TWO MEMBERS AND  
CONVICTION OF A MEMBER**

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that I have received the following telegram dated the 30th May, 1957 from the Judicial Magistrate, Agra:—

"Shri Braj Raj Singh, Member, Lok Sabha, taken in custody under my orders at 4-15 P.M. today, under sections 143/186/228, Indian Penal Code. Formal letter follows."

I have also to inform the House that I have received the following wireless message dated the 30th May, 1957 from the District Magistrate, Etawah:—

"Shri Arjun Singh Bhadsuria, Member, Lok Sabha, has been arrested today under sections 447/448/228, I.P.C."

I have also to inform the House that I have received the following wireless message dated the 30th May, 1957 from the District Magistrate, Kanpur:

"I have to inform you that Shri Jagdish Awasthi, Member, Lok Sabha, arrested on the 25th May, 1957, was tried in the court of Shri B. N. Verma, Magistrate, First Class, on an indictment charging him for the contravention of an order under section 144 Cr P.C. promulgated by me and has been sentenced today under section 188 Part (ii) I.P.C. to three months' rigorous imprisonment and rupees five hundred fine or in default one month's simple imprisonment"

#### NAVY BILL\*

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramalaiah): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the government of the Navy.

Mr. Speaker: The question is—

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the government of the Navy."

*The motion was adopted.*

Shri Raghuramalaiah: I introduce the Bill

#### GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION—contd

Mr. Speaker: Now the further consideration of the general discussion on the budget will take place. The hon. Minister will reply to the debate. Mr T. T. Krishnamachari.

Shri Sampath (Namakkal): May I submit that no representative of the Dravida Munnetra Kazakam has been given an opportunity to take part in the discussion so far. We are only two

here but we represent a very powerful and distinct force in Tamilnad which is playing an important role in the shape of things to come in the Madras politics.

Mr. Speaker: There are five hundred and odd members in this House. I am sorry that I have not been able to provide opportunities to all Members in this House. Some of them have to wait some time longer than those three debates. Therefore, I could not make any exception so far as these hon. Members are concerned. Now the hon. Minister will reply to the debate.

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Mr. Speaker, the debate took more than three days, including today the fourth day and 46 Members, apart from the Prime Minister and my young colleague have participated in the debate and have spoken for more than sixteen hours. It will, therefore, be almost impossible for me to meet all the points that have been raised by all these hon. Members. I have to confine myself perforce to deal with some of the important points that have been raised by hon. Members. I should also like to express my gratification for the fact that the debate has, barring a few exceptions—as they always exist—been conducted in a very high level in spite of the fact that hon. Members might have been exercised because of the sweeping nature of the taxation proposals and it might have been mistaken that because they were of a sweeping nature, they were equally rigorous. Notwithstanding, there has been an atmosphere in the House of an attempt to understand the difficulties of Government. For that I am very grateful.

The pride of place in regard to the discussion that has taken place must undoubtedly go to the initial speech made by the Leader of the Communist Group. I do not exactly place what the hon. Member was really driving at. I am not going to refer to the

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philosophic or quasi-philosophic element in his speech, that is, his reference to the Marxist ideology. Nonetheless, it is very difficult to understand what he really wanted to say. I am very sorry I have lost my notes about his speech. But it does not matter very much. There are quite a number of contradictions in his speech, of which I suppose he is aware, for, he being a very intelligent person I do not ascribe to him the motive that he is unaware of what he is saying.

His main charge against me is that I am not taking my work seriously. I know I have a lot of defects and I think hon. Members of this House know about my defects. Quite a number of them, both on this side and the other side, have been with me for the last five years. But this is the first time I heard somebody saying I have not taken my duty or work seriously. I suppose it would probably help us because the hon. Member opposite and I are probably of the same age and it is good for us sometimes to relax. But I can assure him that the basis of his charge that I was not taking my work seriously has no substance in fact. I would not characterise it as being anything in particular except that he wanted to make a charge and he found this itself a good polemical argument and therefore he made it. Well, it is all in the game. But may I ask if the hon. Member is very serious himself about this? Of course, my hon. friend is not the typical communist that we think of, at any rate in the past, the lean, hungry, ferocious-looking person who spits brimstone and fire. He is a very polite, suave, pleasant person, almost like a faded aristocrat who has lived well but not wisely. I have had some acquaintance with him, though not of a very near character, at the time when he used to attend—those stray cases in which he used to attend the committee over which I was presiding, the Industrial Advisory Council. We have had the benefit of his advice in those Committees on the occasions he attended; but generally he preferred

to be absent. I can also understand that my hon. friend was not interested in the Industrial Advisory Council because obviously the work of the Industrial Advisory Council was to help the private sector and so far as the public sector is concerned most of the things will be decided at governmental level and the hon. Member was not interested in advising Government in regard to the development of the private sector. Am I to draw the conclusion that the hon. Member is not interested in this House and the work of this House, the parliamentary form of Government and in the plan that a Government functioning under that system wants to bring into being? Perhaps he is not. I do not blame him. After all, there were various types of Marxists and he might feel like the one that won't change though I remember that in the year in which I was born Lenin appears to have stated that after all whatever theories and principles that Marx adumbrated, they are merely the corner-stone, something on which we should build in the future. Well, Lenin is forgotten and what does it matter? Things have changed considerably since Lenin departed from this world. Therefore I am at a loss how to reply to the hon. Member. What shall I say? He seems to like the Plan or at any rate the planned economy. But he says: whatever you are doing in regard to the furtherance of the Plan is all wrong. He has suggested some methods by which we can forego all these things, these Financial Bills and collect enough money for the purpose of implementing the Plan. But he has been very charitable merely because he had his eye on Kerala. He said: I am not suggesting that you should nationalise plantations. I would like the House to mark those words that indicate the policy of the Kerala Government: barring plantations nationalise the rest. Of course, he had a queer theory, a new interpretation of Marxism, namely, you seize the wealth the time that is made. A very good thing. Often times, it is good to go and buy milk when it is being milked from



the udder of the cow. Then, there is no chance of adulteration. But the cow must yield the milk. If I seize all this wealth the time it is made, well, there will be no incentives. He may say I have asked you to nationalise everything. A reply to it was given by Shri Ranga to whom I am very grateful. He knows it perfectly well that, assuming the Government wants to nationalise—it does not—it is not possible for it to run all these enterprises. Therefore, it is just a suggestion thrown in the air so as to confuse the Government, if it will be confused, and confuse the wider public so that they may know the theory of the Leader of the Communist Party making an able suggestion which will relieve the Government of its responsibility to impose indirect taxes on the people. It adds ginger to the propaganda that might be carried on to say that you ought to protest against these indirect taxes and lead processions and organise hartals. Of course he has his eye outside all the time. I do feel after his speech and the light manner in which he treated the entire thing, that he is not interested either in this Parliament or its work or in the Plan on which the work of this Government is mainly based.

Another worthy suggestion that he made was State trading. Do we not know about State trading? In fact, may I say, in all humility that it was given to me to implement the Government's policy with regard to State Trading Corporation and I am happy to say that my colleague who has taken my place is furthering the scope of this particular organisation. We know about it. We propose to utilise State trading methods when it is most convenient to us, when it is good for the economy of the country. But, then, I would like to tell my hon friend—not that he does not know, he knows everything, only he does not want to admit. He knows fully well that there is no ten per cent margin in import-export trade because if there is a ten per cent margin, we will raise the duty and mop it up. If there is that margin on export trade, we will levy

the export duty because we have our eyes on what the commodity will bear. He knows that fully. The Government is in a position to take out the extra profits from time to time and only leave the incentive in the hands of these people so that goods may be able to go out or be brought into the country for the purpose of distribution. Still, he facetiously suggests that there is a ten per cent margin and that even if we take over half of that Rs 1,200 crores of export-import trade, we shall have Rs 60 crores a year which means Rs 240 crores for the Plan and then we can very well drop a large part of the indirect taxes.

I am merely stating this fact in order to tell this House and through this House the wider public, that no counter-proposals have been made by any hon Member, and least of all, by the Leader of the Communist Group.

He found fault with me for not having any theory. May be, I have no time to adumbrate a theory because I have got a job of work to do. We broadly call ourselves socialists. The hon Member says You are not socialists. Well, if he says that I am not a socialist, he is entitled to have that belief. If he says that there is a mote in my eye and I do not have it, he is entitled to say that I have got a mote in my eye. If he says that every hon Member has an element of squint in his eye, he is entitled to that opinion because sometimes you reveal a squint and sometimes you do not.

Our socialism is our own variety. And we propose to hug to it. He says: there is no theory so far as your socialism is concerned. So get a prophet. Well, we do not want a prophet in this country. We create idols and we create symbols and then wipe them off. We have no need for a prophet in order that we could implement a socialist economy and bring into being an egalitarian society.

The trouble about him is he does not know what this socialism means. His socialism is co-terminous with authoritarianism and totalitarianism is co-terminous with the idea that the individual human being had no part or lot and there is the apathy

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 of a party which rules over everybody. That is the organisation which he believes in. Of course, I cannot provide a theory similar to what he has in his mind. He says this is no democracy, but it is a bureaucracy. May I ask him, which Communist country exists in the world which is not run by bureaucracy? What is the use of these words? I should like to tell my hon. friend that the theory which he hugs to, that the system to which he is mentally addicted to, which he is supposed to represent in this country and which he wants to be implemented in this country, is nothing but sheer, naked, unadulterated authoritarianism rich with bureaucracy and no element of democracy. With that I will dismiss the speech of my hon. friend Shri Dange.

Sir, as I said at the beginning, I am very grateful to a number of hon. Members, not only on my side but also on the Opposition, who made several constructive speeches, some of them I know and some of them I have not got the privilege of knowing. Will hon. Members on my side forgive me if I mention the names of two hon. Members on the opposite? One is an old friend, Shri B C Ghose, who, during the time that he was a Member of Rajya Sabha, always came out with constructive criticism which I found very difficult to resist, either I had to accept or apologise for not accepting it. The other hon. Member is Shri K Khadilkar who made a very effective contribution so far as this debate is concerned. Both the hon. Members realise that we are committed to the Plan. Both the hon. Members found that there were some defects in the implementation of the Plan. Well, may be, they are right in some respects and wrong in other respects, but this is a point of view that can be entertained, a point of view that will have to be met and answered, and these hon. Members will have to be satisfied. Therefore, Sir, my friends on my side will forgive me when I say that these two hon. Members opposite have materially contributed

to raising the level of the debate and to pin-pointing on the main purpose of this Budget, namely, that the Plan must be implemented.

May be, Sir, that some hon. Members on my right felt that the burden of the Plan was far too much and, therefore, it has to be cut, it has to be pruned. My hon. friend, Shri Masani, who is always constructive, had to give up that path merely because of certain inhibitions. He could not get away from the inhibition that the Plan is bad, that the Plan, by the very nature of its content and the fact that it does require certain amount of regimentation, voluntary undoubtedly, cuts across his somewhat pet idea of a mixed economy. He does not like it. He says, prune the Plan. The Prime Minister spoke yesterday about the possibilities of pruning the Plan. But I was rather interested in the two words that he used which, it appears are used in Yugoslavia for the purpose of characterising two types of Communists.

Shri M R. Masani (Ranchi-East)  
 Hungary

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The hon. Member has travelled so far and wide that it is rather difficult to distinguish the country. If it is in Hungary, it is all the more interesting. He said something about people being romantic and people being dilettantes. I do not know whom he had in mind. Of course, there are dilettantes and there are romantics. He says, a man who hugs steel plant is romantic. If he had intended to call me romantic, I may tell him even at my age there can be a little romance, for me. Fortunately, this romance happens to be in relation to myself and something which is tangible and which has no life, namely, steel plants. Yes, Sir, I feel romantic about it. Often times people have told me, "Now that Shri T T Krishnamachari is realising how difficult it is to bring into being three steel plants, he might give up the idea of the target of 15 million tons by the end of the third Five Year Plan." I hope I would not become the casualty

of the budget, as my hon friends from Madras have mentioned. If I am here during the next four years in order to enable me to lay down the target for the third Five Year Plan I shall stick to the 15 million tons of steel.

As far as my being a dilettante is concerned, I am afraid my hon. friend must lay his hand on his heart and find out whether he was saying something about himself. I cannot even claim to be a dilettante nor I am one, nor have I got the mental ability to be a dilettante. But, by and large, what he said was in all good faith. He spoke about Sindbad the Sailor and the Old Man of the Sea. All right. If the Old Man of the Sea is the Plan and I am Sindbad the Sailor, well, I can be even more romantic than what he has suggested. After all, it is good to be Sindbad the Sailor. Sometimes the Old Man of the Sea can be carried, as he said, across the stream to the shore of safety. After all, our country is old. But it is not the Old Man of the Sea in the sense that it sits round the neck. It wants to be carried to a stage of progress that will have to be brought about in the country. But I do not think he has materially helped to lighten my burdens or provoked me to such an extent that I should have to reply to him with a certain warmth.

Sir, before I go to the main issue, I shall say a few words in regard to what Acharya Kripalani said. I am glad that the Acharya is here. The trouble with the Acharya is allergy to Finance Ministers, though he is allergic to several other things besides. But he is certainly allergic to Finance Ministers. He provoked a predecessor of mine, in 1950, to such an extent that there was a story behind it. He told me a story of a mad man who wanted a job and ultimately said he got a job in Government service. And my distinguished predecessor said that the Acharya seems to be ripe for a job in Government service. I am glad to see that the Acharya is not ripe yet, but the trouble about him is this. May I say, in all humility, to

him, a leader of ours, that it is not particularly graceful for him to go and accept the hospitality even in a Government House for which we pay—all of us pay, and we pay for the Government House being run—and then find fault with the way in which the host has been living, and that it is not true to our tradition. With that, I shall say nothing more about the Acharya.

**Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi):** I must say that it was not at his private expense, but it was at public expense. I have every right to criticise how these things are done.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The Acharya should not go to such entertainments. He is contributing to wastage of public money.

There is one point I would like to say in this connection. The hon Members have referred to one particular point, namely, the budget speech of mine suffers from a very serious defect in that I have suggested nothing about economy. I understand that my budget is somewhat unorthodox. I may also say that I thought it was not necessary to follow the trodden path in the case of a budget speech of this nature at a time like the present. The fact really was that I wanted to carry the House with me so far as the difficulties that lay ahead of us in implementing the Plan concerned. Maybe that somebody grunts, maybe that the hon leader of the Communist Group groaned and sighed. I did deliberately not mention this question, because I did not want to divert the attention of the hon Members of this House. If I had made an omission of a serious nature, I would apologise to the House for it.

But, so far as the public expenditure is concerned, I agree that there is waste, and that is why we have checks and counter-checks. If we feel that every person is going to spend the money exactly according to the needs, purely on production basis of his expenditure, then there would be no need for checks. We need not have an Expenditure Department; we need

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not have Financial Advisers, we need not have a departmental check, we need not have a Comptroller and Auditor-General. The fact is that when we undertake an expenditure in a large way, the danger of wasteful expenditure is there all the time. May be that some hon. Members see that there is waste somewhere which is patent to them. Some other hon. Member may see a waste somewhere else. Some other hon. Member might think that it is unnecessary to make the expenditure though it is a necessary expenditure from the point of view of the Government and has been correctly incurred and without any wasteful additions to it.

Mention has been made about the utilisation of water in the irrigation projects. It is not that we are unaware of it. In fact, the target laid in the first Plan was 8.5 million acres to be brought under cultivation. That is the irrigated land we expected to get, but in accordance with the figures reported by State Governments in connection with the progress report for 1956-57, the Planning Commission has said that the additional area brought under irrigation is only about four million acres. The realisation of irrigation benefits, therefore, works out roughly to 50 per cent. The shortfall can be attributed to various causes. In fact, I myself have seen, and have realised some of these causes. Sometimes we do not have a canal or, it is not dug quickly.

Now, take a person like Sir M. Viswesvarayya who happily is still with us. He is the man who conceived one of the biggest projects in India, the Krishnarajasagar dam, but it was left to his successor 15 or 20 years afterwards to utilise the water, because the first canal that was dug out for irrigation, the Irwin Canal, was during the period of service of Sir Mirza Ismail, who was the Dewan, long after Sir M. Viswesvarayya left his office. Undoubtedly now, today, it has meant an enormous difference in the agricultural economy of Mysore.

I have myself found that in the Tungabhadra project, canals have been dug to a length of 140 miles on the right bank, the land is there, but there are no people to utilise the land. I am told now that it is better than it was two years back, but there are these gaps. Gaps are caused in every human endeavour, but they have got to be watched, and that is why we have the National Development Council as such, and my hon. colleague the Home Minister has established a Committee on Plan projects which is going into the question of utilisation of these projects.

So far as I am concerned, during the last eight months, we tried to put a break on expenditure. Some of the hon. Members have said—I think it is Shri Somani—about loose budgeting. I can tell Shri Somani that so far as the budgeting this year is concerned, we have omitted so many items and they may come back again by way of supplementary grants. I do not think that in such public expenditure, there is a chance of money not being utilised. But, at the same time, I am aware of the fact that with the amounts of governmental expenditure going up, the exercise that we have to indulge in, in regard to putting expenses down has got to be tightened up.

I would like to tell the hon. Members that in regard to civil expenditure, these are, obligatory expenditure which means a share of the excise duty payable to States, services, statutory grants, pensions, and so on which comes to about Rs. 96 crores. There can be no economy. Tax collection charges come to Rs. 17 crores or which there could be economy, but it might be a misplaced economy. It is a matter to be looked into. It may be that with the new tax that I am proposing, and which the House may approve, there might have to be an addition. Nevertheless it is a matter that wants watching. You have the nation building services, education, medical health, agriculture, scientific departments, community development,

welfare of backward classes, employment exchange and so on which come to Rs. 179 crores. Obviously we can only see what is the proper utilization at the end; it is no question of checking the number of people employed here because grants are made in the particular project. Then there are the general administration, audit, police, external affairs and tribal areas and these form a sum of Rs. 45 crores. The item that has to be checked and looked into is the Civil service and this amounts to Rs. 16 crores; we have already cut it down to the bone. It is necessary to see that they are properly expended. There is then Rs. 24 crores for "Miscellaneous" and for mint, stamps, Pondicherry, grants to States, there is no particular cut there

13 hrs.

In regard to item 2—tax collection charges—Administrative charges and Civil Works, I would like to promise to the House that I do propose to take steps to tighten up the present method of control. While we have the services controlled in the Home Ministry—it is now being tightened up—we have also the Organization and Methods Division in the Cabinet section, and I have on my side an economy division which goes into the work of each Ministry. It may be that this particular Division which is ultimately responsible for the number of people employed has to be strengthened. It is my intention, subject to my Colleagues agreeing, to set up an economy board within the Ministry—not a committee—which will report from time to time to the Cabinet. I realize the need for checking the expenditure and extravagance. I would like to assure the House that I have taken very seriously all the suggestions that have been made in this regard and we propose to try and see what we can do and to cut down expenditure to the limits that are possible. At the same time, I would like to say that in a developing economy, all obligations grow and hon. Members themselves want this and that or some other service. It may be that while we cut down some sections,

some other sections will grow. I have mentioned in my budget speech and it was mentioned again by the Prime Minister yesterday that the Centre is taking greater interest in certain matters affecting the lives of the people like slum dwellers, provisions of housing in rural areas and a greater concentration in the rehabilitation of our refugees.

I am sorry that in the other House when I mentioned about Rs. 80 crores having been spent on rehabilitation of refugees in Bengal and that has been wasted, it was somewhat misunderstood. I have no doubt in my mind that we have given them relief and quite a lot of money we have given in addition to the relief. But we have not been able to rehabilitate any large portion of them. This is one of our primary duties in the coming months which we have to undertake. So expenditure has to increase in a developing economy. I quite admit and accept the validity of the charge made: "What have you done in regard to checking expenditure and effecting economy?" Economising in one direction which appeals to one hon. Member may not appeal to another. There are certain exigencies which we cannot forget. An hon. Member asks: Why do you go in a big car? If an hon. Member asks 'why', I will mention why. We have sometimes to carry 6 or 7 boxes. Sometimes we do not go all alone. If hon. Members are under the impression that that a Minister goes in a staff car, I would say that a Minister goes in a staff car once or twice. I myself go in my staff car with 3 or 4 members of my staff. Then there is the other fact that a small car is not an economical car. A small car goes out of order in two years while big cars last for ten years.

An Hon. Member: It is only a small matter.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: These are facts which I place before you. What looks to be economy by one person is not always economical. So, when criticising Government, I would like to tell hon. Members that Government

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are aware of the fact that needless waste should be cut. Of course, there may be cases when somebody exceeds the limit.

**Acharya Kripalani:** Why not have a bus?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** If the hon. Member is satisfied, I am prepared to ask the House to make a grant and give the present of a bus to the hon. Member. It may be useful to him.

**Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun):** It might be missed.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Somebody will have to pay. It does not matter very much.

**An Hon. Member:** A lorry would be better.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Then I come to the rationale of the tax proposals. Before I do so, I would like to mention one aspect of the Plan. Some hon. Members have said here yesterday that the Plan must be saved. I said the core of the Plan must be saved. Then I said the hard core of the Plan must be saved. He thinks it is a diminution of the size of the Plan from time to time. He does not understand that the Plan itself is by and large made of the hard core. The fleshing around is very little, just enough to cover and if the Plan is a human being who wants to sit on the floor, he will find the floor is touching the bone, the Plan itself is the hard core of the whole of the Plan. My hon. friend Shri Masani said "Cut down." Am I to cut down the expenditure on the steel plants? I know my hon. friend Shri Pande mentioned about the steel plants. I would like to take Mr. Pande to the steel plants and convince him that every pie that is being spent is spent taking a long view.

**Shri C. D. Pande (Naini Tal):** Is he taking me to all the concerns?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I propose to take him only to the steel plants. I do not propose to take him either to Bhakra or to Agra. I can tell him that needless economy which we make now will entail greater expenditure later on. If we defer the coming into being of the steel plant by one month, we shall lose crores. Sometimes, therefore, you will have to spend a couple of crores in order to accelerate the coming into being of the steel plant. Therefore, my hon. friend must realize that this is the hard core. I cannot shave off anything. There is no flesh in it. Therefore, I cannot drop the steel plants. If we drop the projects and maintain the staff, it adds to the cost of the plant. If hon. Members had turned round and found fault for not accelerating the execution of the project, I would have pleaded guilty. I am perfectly sure in my mind that some of the projects which we started, the stage of project making in 1948, if we had accelerated it, we would have saved a lot of money. As mentioned by the Prime Minister, if the Steel Plant had come in in 1948 or 1951, we should certainly have saved a lot of money. If hon. Members find fault with us for not having taken this earlier, I plead guilty. I do not know if my hon. friend Shri Masani is correct, when he says "You cut down the Plan." Yes. But what happens to the plan if the foreign exchange needs are not made available? Well, to the extent we have committed ourselves, I have to go through. Maybe we can reduce a few things here and there, but it will reduce the size of the plan very much. Supposing we cut down the amount to be spent on the heavy electrical project and bring down the amount to Rs. 7 crores from Rs. 15 crores which we expect to spend, we cannot make a big saving. Out of Rs. 7 crores there is a foreign exchange of Rs. 3 crores. We may produce transformers and switchgear to which we gave a high priority than other things that the factory is going to make. What you would save in the aggregate would not amount to very much. So, I will take such of these people who

tell me to drop the plan into my confidence and tell them: "You would be doing far more injury to the exchequer and to the country by this than if you carry the plan although with a certain amount of difficulty". May be the plan is wrong; may be the plan is right. From the point of view of Shri Masani our objective is wrong; our planning is wrong; we should not take risks in a mixed economy.

**Shri M. R. Masani:** I never said that our objective is wrong. I said that there is over-concentration on heavy industries to the neglect of consumer goods and agriculture.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** As the Prime Minister mentioned yesterday, if we don't develop our heavy industries we would be in the same position in which we have been placed all these years. We don't have machinery for working even the consumer goods. Are we to be in that state for all time? Undoubtedly, we can give more importance for consumer goods in the Third Five-year plan. Even for these things we need big forges, foundries and other big machineries. If we do not do it even at some risk now for having something better for the future, we will only be depending on the vagaries of the monsoon. We will only be depending on the foreign country over which we have no control for our export trade. For that purpose, we have to be a little more self-reliant. We have given up the word 'self-sufficient'. We have to be self-reliant and for that purpose we have to concentrate on certain heavy industries. I quite agree that we should develop consumer industries. I can request my colleague the Commerce Minister to give licences to all those persons who want to start consumer industries. But I cannot get the foreign exchange. Rather, we can use some portion of it on machinery for producing consumer goods. My friend Shri Masani is a discerning critic and he knows the difficulty in getting foreign exchange. There is really no other choice. If you really want this country to produce more consumer

goods in the next plan you have to depend on our heavy industries so that we make the machinery for working the consumer goods. Therefore, Sir, the plan stands. There may be a few changes here and there, a few items may be dropped; may be I may not be able to utilise the bye-products of the steel plants. I cannot put up chemical factories. Some of the things for which we do not have foreign exchange may be dropped and in the aggregate we may get Rs 100 crores but the result would mean something serious in regard to production of consumer goods in the next plan. I would like to tell hon. members, if my colleague the Minister for Commerce and Industry would permit me that our dependence on foreign countries is in respect of the raw materials and some semi-manufactured materials for our industries. We have to get rid of the bottlenecks in all these things. There is no justification for anybody telling us to drop these heavy industries. We may save a few crores of rupees. I know that such plans take a longer time and I know that we are short of man-power and there are various other difficulties. But it is imperative, so far as planning is concerned, in an under-developed economy.

Now I come to the rationale of the tax proposals. There is no use now thinking of the First Five-year Plan where we had a comparatively easy course because of the emphasis on agriculture. There we had about Rs 400 crores of deficit finance. Our balance of payments position was stable. The alternative now is, either you should tax or you should carry on with deficit financing. My hon. friend Shri Masani was quite right when he said that of the two evils, taxation is a preferable evil than deficit financing. I have been laying the greatest emphasis on the evils of deficit financing for the last 8 months. There are certain interested parties either in this country or abroad who say that the value of the rupee is dropping. The value of the rupee is not dropping. The rupee is stronger today in comparison with many currencies of the



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world. It is stronger today than even the currency of the country from which the first criticism emanated. I am proud of it, and it shall be my endeavour, to the extent of my ability, to sustain the value of the rupee at its present level. And, that again is the justification for my tax proposals.

Therefore, Sir, we have to choose the lesser of the two evils. Some hon members have said that there will be a rise in price following the excises. May I again tell the hon members that the rise consequent on the excises has to be very small. There is no use telling me meticulously of the difference in price because it is likely that the price of one cup of tea may have increased by one naya paisa. It may be sold at one anna or six naya paisa more and it does not mean that the price is justified. What I have done in regard to the monetary policy, in regard to the present monetary system itself is, *dis-inflationary*. As usual, in a very good speech, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha said that while these taxes will be all right in a developing economy it is not useful in an under-developed economy. I am afraid the position is the reverse. In a developed economy you have a high order of direct taxation. Where a high order of direct taxation is not possible, it is only indirect taxes that are resorted to. A developed economy could not afford to get the money that it gets, in a different way. I am afraid it is because of our under-developed economy that we have to think in terms of fractional additions to tax income from individuals. Dr Krishnaswami asked me a question as to whether taxation would mean more savings. It is a legitimate question. Well, I don't see more savings in the hands of the individuals, it will be more savings in the public sector. Whether savings are accumulating or stagnating depends upon the tax-payer, and how he reacts. I don't know what Dr Krishnaswami has in mind. My being somewhat ignorant of advanced economic theories is a handicap in my

ability to understand Dr Krishnaswami.

**Dr. Krishnaswami (Chingleput):** There is nothing advanced about my economies provided you make an attempt to understand my suggestions.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** He seems to advocate reduction in investment but he has no positive answer to the question of savings. My hon friend Shri B C Ghose made some contribution to the debate which is very valuable. He went on to the primary factor which is the sheet anchor of our troubles, namely the food position. In the first five year plan, for three years there was a depression, and the prices started dropping before the fifth year.

Sir, an hon Member asked about imports and deferred payments and the question of licensing of capital goods. I think a question was answered by my hon colleague the Minister for Industry, Mr Manubhai Shah, about it. I am not sure whether all this will fructify, it might not, it all depends to a large extent. We can go on with the development of the private sector in this direction only if deferred payment is available for capital goods.

On the question of taxation, I said it is an impost. Some people have said that I have given incentives to people in higher incomes. The Prime Minister did make a point yesterday that we are trying to turn the direction of taxation. One factor which is certain so far as the present taxation is concerned, and on which I would like to be emphatic is that direct taxation as it stands today does not allow any room for expansion of governmental income. If I take the top slab from 93 per cent to 99 per cent I shall get Rs 2½ crores.

The matter was also mentioned about evasion. Of course, there is evasion. Whoever says there is not? In fact, my own estimate of evasion has been higher than that of my predecessor. What are you doing about it? asked Mr. Dange. Well, we find since evasion



is there, and as the hon Member Mr Dange knows that the evader sometimes uses the instrument of law for purposes of avoiding payment, we have to see that the tax structure itself is changed so that we catch these people at many points. And that is the main basis of the direct tax proposals I have made. I do not say that I have borrowed it entirely from Mr Kaldor. I had the benefit of a number of discussions with Mr Kaldor, I had the benefit of reading some of his notes, which ultimately formed the booklet which we have given to this hon House. I had to tell Mr Kaldor that no Government will go as far as he wants. Unless I am perfectly sure that the tax income is going to be augmented by Rs 150 crores, I cannot go down to the extent of 45 naya paise.

The fact is that Mr Kaldor is not inhibited by responsibility. Therefore, while I am grateful to the ideas that have been given by the Taxation Enquiry Commission, by Mr Kaldor and by a number of officials that we have and my expert advisers, the ultimate responsibility for deciding on the particular course has to be that of Government and I have to give a lead in that matter and get my colleagues to examine the proposals and accept or reject them, as the case may be. All that I have done now is to give a turn to the taxes.

Of course, you may ask what about incentives? Do they need incentives? I think Mr B C Ghose mentioned the fact as against some of the arguments made here that private industry does need incentives. That is how I understood his remarks. Well, it might not need incentives for the time being, but it may need incentive in the future, so long as an element of private enterprise is there. I am not saying that it should exist for all time, I am not saying that it should exist in the present shape and form. As I visualise it, progressively as the public sector develops,—may be the private sector also develops—they may take over consumer industries which are being run by private enterprise under conditions in which we would like them

to function, that is greater participation of labour in management, better distribution of profits to labour, more economic production and better service to consumers. If they do fulfil that function we might keep them. It may not be necessary for us for a long time to push them out. But I am not thinking merely of the private sector. I am thinking of the individual. The individual has to earn and he has to work to earn and he has to have some incentive. Maybe later on when it becomes invested we come up with our unearned income-tax, or expenditure tax. It is an integrated picture. If I do not reduce the top slab, I cannot have a wealth tax.

I have got a statement here in which I have made some academic exercises. I do not want hon Members who represent the private sector to be afraid. I have taken about 21 cases where we know what is the earned income and what is the unearned income of the top slabs. We tried to assess by our own guess work of what will be the wealth they have from the unearned income they get. We found that in four cases they will benefit from the present rate of taxation of wealth and income tax, to a small extent. On a total income of about Rs 17 lakhs to Rs 18 lakhs, they will get about Rs 2,000 or Rs 4,000. In about nine cases they have hit the ceiling and have gone beyond that. I do not say there is validity about it, because it is only an intellectual exercise based on assumption. I do not say they would not happen. The idea really is that by and large we should check evasion because we are attacking people who have property from various angles and it is not a question of expenditure tax yielding more. If the expenditure tax does not yield more it is good, because people do not expend. The money goes into savings. If the expenditure tax yields more it is good.

One point that I would like to reiterate here in connection with this scheme of taxation is that you must take it as a whole. If the House says

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we do not want you to lower the taxable limit of income-tax, I have to gear up the wealth tax and expenditure tax and also increase the rate of surcharge on unearned incomes. Maybe later on when we find greater income accrues and produces not merely Rs 5 crores, but Rs 25 crores, we might lower it by 5 or 7 per cent. and probably take it off the unearned incomes.

This is a thing that the Finance Minister of the time like an architect goes on adding or subtracting, as the case may be. He wants to produce an integrated picture. Like a sculptor he has to make an attempt with a block and until he works on it he will not be able to tell you the exact figure, the precise delineation of the various features of that particular sculpture.

Therefore, I beg to say that the House must take it as a whole so far as direct taxation is concerned, and that, Sir, leads me on to a consideration of some of the criticisms made, some of which I felt were valid and therefore merits careful consideration. I do recollect the various points raised by hon Members. I have placed my difficulties before my colleagues. We had a discussion and since that time had bestowed some thought over the matter, I may even say very serious thought how best we can do something in order that some portion of the burden is taken away. Because if the total amount of money is reduced then the Plan goes, or I have to indulge in deficit financing. Consistent with the fears I have been voicing, consistent with our obligation to implement the Plan, consistent with our anxiety to keep the economy in proper trim, I have been exercising my mind on this matter.

The hon the Prime Minister made a point yesterday that the House should not lose sight of the fact that we have set apart Rs 25 crores for which a provision has been made in the Budget, as a fund for the purpose of subsidising food-grains. It is not

a small amount; it is a large amount. But I am not saying the limit of the assistance which Government will give in order to keep food-grain prices at a certain level is more or less coterminous with the amount that I have mentioned. It is not. If the needs of the situation wants more, we will have to find the money. If we spend less, I will be very grateful. With this background I want hon Members to realise my difficulties in this matter.

The question of this lower limit of income-tax was prominently mentioned by hon Members. Well, Sir, as the hon the Prime Minister mentioned yesterday we are convinced that income-tax must be broad based. We realise that we should not take away from a person who gets an income of Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,200, the small amount of money that he is getting. We nevertheless feel that it is best to take the step of broad basing our income-tax structure. I got a telegram the other day from some friends in the Madras Secretariat Association who feel grateful that I, along with my colleagues, in the Centre, have been able to provide a little addition to their income, and they say "you are taking away by this income-tax provision what has been given." Well, it touched me—I am not impervious to sentiment—it touched me. But still, even though something has to be done, I do not think we should retrace our steps. But I propose to make a small change.

In order to provide relief to married individuals with children, I propose to add to the marriage allowance already provided, a children's allowance of Rs 300 per child, subject to a maximum of Rs 600. This allowance will, however, not be admissible to persons with incomes above Rs 20,000 in whose case I propose to withdraw also the marriage allowance of Rs 2,000.

In regard to wealth and expenditure tax, I have already indicated my intention to ask the House to refer the Bills to one or two Select Committees as the House might choose. There

would, therefore, be further opportunity to discuss the various details of these two Bills. Meanwhile I may as well state that it is my intention to ask the Select Committee to agree to giving a "wealth tax holiday" for the first five years from the date of incorporation of a company on the value of the assets pertaining to an industrial of a new company, provided that the undertaking is not formed by the splitting up or the reconstruction of business already in existence or by the transfer to a new business of buildings, machinery and plant already used in an existing business. I also propose that investments of one company in another company, in what is called inter-corporate existence, should not be included for the purpose of wealth tax. This is in tune with the provisions of section 62 of the Income-tax Amendment Act which amendment was made three or four years ago at my instance.

Hon Members have pointed out an incongruity in the proviso to clause 3 of the Expenditure Tax Bill. It is not as if it did not strike me at the time the draft was passed. I do not want my hon friend Shri Dange to say, "Oh, this Minister is easy-going". The difficulty was in prescribing the limit. We felt that the ultimate determination of the limit should be left to the Select Committee. It is more than likely that several provisions of this Bill would need revision. (a) in the direction of tightening the provisions and (b) in allowing, in some cases, some elasticity for a period of time so that particular individuals might change over from their normal expenditure limits to the new ones—of course, subject to the fact that there will be saving, and they can prove that they have been incurring this expenditure, may be in the case of some people who have retainers to whom money has to be paid, that has to be excluded from the expenditure. Some people have mentioned about a large increase in medical bills. Well, it will be for the Select Committee to consider all these matters, and I propose to leave it to the Select Committee stage.

The question of the postcards has exercised hon Members considerably. My colleague the Minister of Communications and Transport and myself have been discussing this matter for some time, and the other Members of the Cabinet have also exercised their thought on this matter. My colleague the Minister of Communications has authorised me to make certain changes. My original proposals, amongst others, were

(a) to raise the existing rates of 5 NP for single and 10 NP for reply-paid postcards to 6 NP and 12 NP respectively, and

on local postcards from 3 NP to 4 NP for single postcards and from 6 NP to 8 NP reply-paid cards respectively and

(b) to increase the rates on parcels from the existing level of 50 NP for every forty tolas or fraction thereof to 60 NP for the first forty tolas or fraction thereof and 50 NP for every additional forty tolas after the first forty tolas.

It is now proposed to drop both these proposals regarding increase in the rates of postcards and parcels. But a compensating levy is proposed to be made. The initial slab of weight for inland letters, including business reply envelopes, which is one tola should be raised to 1½ tola. And the rates for such inland letters will be raised from 13 NP to 15 NP. The users of this particular type of communication being very largely business houses, they have both an advantage and a slight disadvantage. The additional weight will also be computed in 1½ tolas instead of one tola as at present, and the rate will be increased from 6 NP for every additional tola to 10 NP for every additional 1½ tolas.

As regards railway fare, my hon colleague the Railway Minister, speaking here the other day, promised consideration of this matter. It is therefore proposed to exempt the first fifteen miles from the operation of this tax.

**An Hon. Member:** Fifty or fifteen?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Fifteen. We are keeping the tax on the other fifteen miles for the reason that unless there is this slab, evasion is a possibility. An hon. friend mentioned to me about rates in hill areas. We had a discussion—my colleague and myself and also the officers—and we found that exemption of hill areas from this small tax might be administratively very difficult. But my colleague has promised that he will look into the charges for these hill areas and revise them adequately to see that this increase does not come into operation.

In regard to excise duties I have, as I said, very carefully heard the argument put forward by hon. Members. And, as I have said, again, we have very carefully considered these excise duties. Though it might look that this has contributed materially to the increasing cost of living, in actual fact their contribution is infinitesimal as it is so widespread and, therefore, in time should not cause any hardship.

We have, again, gone through the lists, as I said I have already withdrawn kerosene, both from excise duty—which is the primary thing—and from the customs duty as well.

As regards motor spirit and diesel oil, in spite of the fact that a case was made out by hon. Members that it is going to add to the cost of transport, where the cost of transport is maintained at low levels it will continue to be maintained at low levels, where it is high, they can cushion it, if they want to make it higher, nothing can prevent them from doing so. There are very many areas where the cost of transport is maintained, even by private operators, at six pies per mile, the initial thing being nine pies or one anna as the case may be, where we pay two annas in some cases. It does not depend upon the actual cost of petrol, but it depends upon the cost of the operation and the nature of the traffic. Therefore,

I think it is not correct to say that this will, by itself, contribute to a rise in bus fares.

Much has been said of cement and steel. Hon. Members are not perhaps aware that the present prices of steel happen to be controlled by a formula which enables Government to absorb the increased cost of steel that is imported, and the present price does not represent the price that we pay to the manufacturers of this country. It is quite possible for me not to have done anything, but I have allowed my colleague the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to administratively raise this amount.

The same thing with regard to cement. The State Trading Corporation had fixed a price of Rs 102-8-0 per ton for cement. But, that is not the cost. The cost that is paid to the producer is different. The price was raised because we had to cushion imports which were costing more. There is today an element there which can, if necessary, be sacrificed. I am not thinking of sacrifice for this reason. I am convinced in my mind that there is shortage in supply, and the demand being very great, there is blackmarket. Our supplies are now in the region of about 5 million tons. Our demand is of the order of 15 million tons. We had found that in actual fact, the price per bag of cement is Rs 8 to 10. I cannot understand hon. Members saying that this addition of 75 naya paise to the price by way of duty is really going to hurt the common man.

So far as sugar is concerned, we have stated why we have raised the price of sugar. Consumption of sugar runs very nearly close to 20 lakh tons. It is running very high.

**An Hon. Member:** That is very good.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is good, I do not say it is not good. Hon. Members have said that you need

carbohydrates in a country where the calorific value of the food taken is very low. But, there is still one thing. The margin between factory price and the distribution price is high. Knowing full well that the factory prices vary almost from Rs 22 to 30, we need this duty in order to be able to export. Export happens to be imperative. If I do not get something from an item of food which is only near necessity, how can I subsidise food myself? Therefore, we have felt that we cannot alter this

As regards matches, the incidence of duty is only 1 naya paisa per match box. Actually the price of a match box containing 40's should really be a fraction over 3 naya paisa. It will amount to four, had it not been for the fact that we had an arrangement through one big producer to keep it at three naya paisas. The duties have been carefully worked out so as to bring the retail prices to whole naya paisas. If I make any small reduction, it would benefit nobody except the producer. I am aware that we have a graded system of duty in regard to B, C, D class factories. I have been personally interested in the C and D class factories some of which we have brought into being during the last three or four years on a co-operative basis. If it happens that the amount of duty that we have fixed affects them adversely, we can lower the duty administratively.

As regards tobacco, hon. Members would realise that the increase is not big. Every country in the world depends upon tobacco for purposes of income. My impression is, the grievance such as it is, is more from the trade than from the consumer or grower. Because, in fact, the grower can keep whatever he wants for his personal consumption. There is a limit put which he cannot really keep. The House is aware that we are changing over from the capability test to the physical form. It is understandable that difficulties will arise in certain cases on account of a change of this nature. It has been represented that as a result of this change cer-

tain varieties of tobacco, after processing, will become assessable to a higher rate of duty even though hitherto they are being assessed at the lower rate. I am having this matter examined, and if the difficulties that are pointed out are genuine, it should be possible to remedy them by administrative action. I think hon. Members will not say that I have infringed the privileges of the House by taking administrative action to help the consumer and trade if I do so.

As regards paper, the profits that are made by the industry are very high. The cost of paper production varies from Rs 760 or Rs 780 per ton to Rs 900 per ton. Until about four months back before our new import policy came into operation, the selling price approximated to Rs 1300 per ton. This again has risen for no reason whatsoever. I can tell hon. Members that if the industry wants to cushion this additional duty, they can, because the industry depends on the law of supply and demand. Even if I had not imposed the duty or withdrawn the duty, there is no certainty that the industry will keep to the price so long as there is shortage of supply particularly by reason of the fact that we have stopped imports. There is no reason why the incidence of duty should not largely, if not wholly, be absorbed by the industry.

The increase is the duty on oil is 2 naya paisa per pound and one rupee and sixty five naya paisas per maund. The price today has gone up by Rs 4. Why? The reason is, today, there is shortage of supply. Prices are bound to create difficulties unless the supply position is remedied. Of course, I see in the papers today that groundnut market has fallen. I wish it falls a little more. If it does, I do not think 2 naya paisa per pound is really going to affect much. Hon. Members also know that so far as ghanis are concerned, and also certain types of rotary presses, we exempt them from duty. May be the rotary presses will have to be brought in. Certainly ghanis are exempted. The price in

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the villages is dependent on several other factors. I do not think it would really benefit the public by reducing the duty on oil.

That brings me to tea and coffee. Both these items affect largely the urban population who are vocal. It is easy to get persons to join a hartal if a tea shop has added one anna or six naya paisa for a cup of tea. I realise the incidence of duty here is fractional so far as tea is concerned, and not very much so far as coffee is concerned. The total return that we get out of this is Rs. 325 lakhs. Still, there is the large urban population which is amenable to the influence of my friend the Leader of the Communist Group.

Shri S. A. Dange (Bombay City-Central): You had it in Calcutta yesterday.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: My hon. friend just says, what can I do. We had it in Calcutta. You can have a hartal in any place. If any non-compliance with a hartal is followed by consequences which are far more serious than following a hartal, if my hon. friend thinks that we do not know about it, I think he does less than justice even to the meagre intelligence that I possess.

This year, there has been a record crop in coffee. I am told that it is over 40,000 tons. It used to be 27, 28 or 29,000 tons until I was in charge of that portfolio. I envy my hon. colleague that coffee has spurred up. Even in tea, the hon. Member mentioned that the supply is slightly above normal. Therefore, Government have decided to withdraw entirely the increases proposed in the rates of excise duty on coffee and tea and I hope hon. Members and their friends will not pay anything more for their cups of coffee and tea.

The net effect of these changes will be that the yield of the proposals made in the budget will be reduced by not an insignificant sum of Rs. 578

lakhs on an annual basis and Rs. 505 lakhs for the current year. Wherefrom should I get the money, I shall wait for hon. Members to tell me.

I am very grateful to hon. Members for having listened to me with great patience. I hope they will appreciate that the Government is not altogether un-responsive to public sentiment expressed both in the House and outside.

### ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Speaker: Now, Shri A. P. Jain. I see hon. Members going out of the House.

As soon as one particular item of work is over, hon. Members may leave one after another if they chose to do so, in a queue. (Laughter) This is not a matter for laughter. As soon as one item of work is over, this House converts itself, I do not want to say, into a market place. This is not the way to behave. Hon. Members come and sit one after another. Let them go one after another in a queue. Why should they all run in pell mell. It interferes seriously with the other work. If anybody sees this, he will take us to task for behaving like this. I appeal to hon. Members, gently, one after another, they may leave the place without causing disturbance so that immediately the next item of work may be taken up.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 be taken into consideration."

I am thankful to you for finding time to enable me to move this Bill through the various stages. This Bill is an important one, although a short one. It embodies in itself the keen desire of the hon. Members of this House to control the prices. The

scheme of the Bill is that if the Government comes to the conclusion that the prices are going upwards, or there is undue hoarding, Government shall have the power to issue a notification which shall vest the Government with some special powers. This notification will hold good only for a period of three months because this provision is meant to be in the nature of an emergency measure. Even as the law stands at present, Government have the power to requisition stocks under section 2 of the Act, but under the existing law, the Government has to pay the price prevailing on the date of the acquisition. It is obvious that a person who hoards stocks with a view to earn more profit by rising prices stands to benefit if he is given compensation at the rates or prices prevailing on the date of acquisition. This Bill proposes to amend that state of affairs. As soon as a notification is published, the compensation will be payable firstly at the rates agreed upon, secondly at rates with reference to the controlled prices and thirdly not at the rates prevailing on the date of the acquisition of the stock, but at the average market rate prevailing in the locality during a period of three months immediately preceding the date of the notification. The result would be that the hoarder will be deprived of the undue benefit which he wants to derive from his anti-social activities. This price will be worked out by an officer of the Government who will be invested with that power, and the prices so worked out shall be final. They shall not be questioned in a court of law. I believe that this power will enable the Government to check the upward trend of prices together with certain other measures which Government proposes to take.

I want to make a few things clear. It is not our intention to touch the small trader, nor is it our intention to touch the farmer. We propose to confine our operations so as to prevent this hoarding by the large stockists. There is ample evidence to show that the large stockists are hoarding considerable quantities of foodgrains

with a view to make profits from the rising prices. I also want to make it clear that the main emergency for bringing forward this measure is the rise in the price of foodgrains, and for the time being until the situation takes a new turn we propose to confine our operations to foodgrains. It is not my intention to cause any panic or any major disturbance in the distributive machinery, for I am not one of those who believes that coal remains coal and potato remains potato when it passes through a trade channel. The trade plays an important role in the distributive system of the society, I would be rather chary to invoke the provisions of this law unless I am compelled to do so, but if a situation arises warranting it, I shall be prepared to go the whole hog, full steam, with the powers that are vested in Government. I hope that the trade will take a lesson and will, of its own accord, manipulate things in a manner that may help society and ensure a regular flow of the commodities in the market. They should function in the interests of the consumer and not merely for the purpose of making profit. I believe that this Bill has a large measure of support from the various sections of this House, and I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

Shri Bharucha (East Khandesh)  
rose

Mr Speaker Let me place the motion before the House first

Motion moved

"That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act 1955 be taken into consideration."

I have received notice of an amendment by Shri Tahir for referring the Bill to a Select Committee. Is he here? He is not here. Therefore, it will not be moved.

The motion is now before the House. Any hon. Members who want to speak?

Some Hon. Members rose



**Mr. Speaker:** Shri V Raju

**Shri V. Raju** (Visakhapatnam) **Mr Speaker, Sir**

**Mr. Speaker:** Does Shri Dange want to speak?

**Shri V. Raju:** I have no objection if he would like to speak

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, Shri Dange

**Shri S. A. Dange** (Bombay City-Central) I want to raise only one point and that is the question of prices that would be agreed upon and paid to the holder of the stocks

It is already admitted that a lot of speculative hoarding has taken place. In fact, it is not of very recent origin. If I am right, last year also mention was made. I think the former Finance Minister speaking an advances by banks had stated that advances were taking place on account of speculative hoarding in many lines one of the lines being also food, and therefore he was taking financial measures with regard to the bank rate in order to check the hoarding. It is known that that type of action has not helped us in stopping speculative advances which lead to hoarding. So, it is good that the Government has come forward with a Bill which will take hold of these stocks which are being held from social supply by motives of making speculative profit. So, in principle, of course, I support the Bill. There is no question of my opposing the Bill at all.

I only want to find out from the Minister how this average price of three months will help the Government to get hold of stocks at reasonable prices and not at speculative prices. That is my difficulty. It may be that you may take an average of three months and thereby get the stocks, but then you will be subsidising the hoarder's price, and though you may succeed in getting the stocks, yet your subsidy to the hoarder would be so high that your financial position may become very precarious.

For example, I wish to draw his attention to the price range of two

commodities. I have not got the latest figures from the Reserve Bank Bulletin. I could not get access to the quoted rates on the Hapur mandi or by the Gram Merchants' Association in Bombay. I think there is a representative of the Gram Merchants' Association or that trade in this House on the Congress side. He could certainly enlighten us better on this point, because it is no question of controversy. It is a question of how to arrive at a method of getting at the stocks in such a way that we do not subsidise the hoarder's price.

1½ hrs.

Now, I shall take the price of a typical commodity like rice, and show what the curve of rise in the price has been, from January, 1956 to March, 1957. The price of rice in January, 1956 was 449 based upon 100 for 1939. From 449 it started jumping, until last December it was 596 which means a rise of more than a hundred points. In January, 1957, it jumped to 562. So, from 449 in January, 1956, it has jumped to 562 in January, 1957. Such a tremendous rise is shown in the price of rice.

In February, 1957, it jumped to 607, a jump of more than 40 points. From 607, it has gone up, according to the March quotation in the Reserve Bank Bulletin to 610. I am taking these figures as they are reproduced in the issue of Commerce dated 18th May, 1957.

So, if you base yourself on the price during the last three months and go to the market to get stocks, say, in June, and if the price is hovering round 610, then over and above the 562 of January, you will be paying a price which will be about 50 to 60 points higher than what should have been the proper rate, though, I do not think that 562 is the proper rate. I do not also make an assertion that 449 is the exact rate, because these rates, of course, are not related to the cost of production of the peasant. These



rates are the rates in the market. Between these rates and what the peasant gets, there is a big margin. We need not discuss that now, and everybody accepts that as a fact. How much the margin is is another thing. But we know that the peasant does not get these prices. It is the trader or the middlemen or the landlord and in some cases a highly rich tenant who still gets some rent in kind,—though it is not really on a large scale at present, because rents have been converted into money—who gets these prices. So, this is the price of the trade, and this is the price in the market.

When there is a jump from 449 to 610, would it be really a just legislation if we say that in order to get these speculative hoards from the merchant, we should allow them the average of these three months, during which period they have put up the rates by more or less 150 or 160 points? Of course, I do not know how Government would get at the hoards by paying a price of 470 or even 550 points. It is for Government to think over and then revise the means. But what I would like to point out is that if you take the average of these three months, if you take it as it is today, it would amount to a subsidy to the hoarder and and the speculator on the grain market. What is the solution to this problem?

I have quoted the rice price. Now, I shall quote the price of a coarse grain which is in short supply. You will find that curiously enough, the price of rice, which has gone up in production according to the Ministry, and the supplies of which are easier has risen faster than even the price of jowar which is a coarse grain. Here, we had the statement that the coarse grain production had gone down, and, therefore, there was a crisis in the food market. The price of jowar was 191 points in January, 1956, it has jumped up to 229 in 1957, which means a rise of more or less 50 points. So, that is also subject to rise in prices. But the price of this coarse grain which is in short supply has more or less risen in

sympathy with rice, and rice is jumping at a faster rate.

I would like the Minister to consider this question, namely whether we cannot avoid paying the average price during these three months, in order to get the stocks, which would amount to subsidising at the hoarder's price. I would like him to examine whether we cannot get the grain supply at the normal market rate and not at the rate in the speculative market. That is my suggestion, and I hope that some provision will be made in this Bill to solve this problem.

**Mr. Speaker:** Only one amendment had been tabled, and that was by Shri Mohammed Tahir, for referring this Bill to a Select Committee. So, I read out his name, after formally placing the motion before the House. I expected any other Member also, who had tabled similar amendments, to rise in his seat.

Shri Mohamed Imam has now sent me a notice that he has also got an amendment in his name. Notice of this amendment was received today at 12 noon. It reads:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion and the opinion of the State Governments thereon by the 15th June 1957."

I am prepared to waive notice, because this Bill was introduced only yesterday. So, I shall not stand on formalities in this matter, and I shall give ample opportunity to hon. Members. But I did not see Shri Mohamed Imam rise in his seat even.

**Shri Mohamed Imam (Chitaldrug):** My name was not called and, therefore, I did not stand. You called only Shri Mohammed Tahir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Anyhow, I shall waive notice. I shall allow the hon. Member to move this motion for circulation. He can speak also on both the original motion and the motion for circulation.

[Mr Speaker]

Before I call upon Shri V. Raju, I shall allow this amendment also to be moved. I shall give an opportunity to the mover of this amendment to speak later on both the amendment and the original motion before the House. I shall give him time in due course.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hissar)** May I take it that notice shall be waived in respect of all the amendments of which notice has been given today, because the motion has been moved only today?

**Mr. Speaker:** I would not raise any objection, and I shall waive notice. I shall accept notice of all the amendments that have been tabled even today, and allow discussion on them after allowing them to be moved.

**Shri Mohamed Imam:** I beg to move

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion and the opinion of the State Governments thereon by the 15th June, 1957"

**Mr. Speaker:** Amendment moved

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion and the opinion of the State Governments thereon by the 15th June, 1957"

**Shri V. Raju:** It was with an element of surprise that I saw that this Bill was being introduced in this House. One of the main reasons given for the introduction of this Bill was that a Cabinet meeting had decided that this piece of legislation be introduced, because the situation in the country had begun to deteriorate badly, that food stockists were hoarding foodgrains, and that conditions were developing in such a manner that if Government did not take action immediately, a very ugly situation may be created in the country. You, Sir, had also mentioned that the importance of this Bill was such that if this House did not take it up today, Gov-

ernment would have been obliged to issue an ordinance, because the matter was so important and urgent.

I am in complete agreement with this view point that this question is very important. But I fail to understand two things. The first is whether this Bill as such would achieve the objective that Government are having in view. The second is whether a separate and a more comprehensive Bill is not necessary to bring completely under control the question of food production and also the hoarding of foodgrains that is taking place throughout the country.

On the 14th May, the Food Minister had made a statement on the food situation. As you know, many hon. Members in the Opposition had felt that the situation in the country was deteriorating, that in Bihar, UP, West Bengal etc. famine conditions had arisen, and that Government should, therefore, take very firm and expeditious action.

However, in his statement which was made in this House on the 14th May, and in the course of the debate on the President's Address, we were informed that generally the food situation had not deteriorated to that extent, that production had gone up to 54.8 million tons—that is, all cereals put together—and that there has been a rise of over 11 million tons during the last five years which synchronised with the First Five Year Plan period. Therefore, it is not a question of there not being sufficient food stocks in the country, but a question of the prices that are going up. Hence the attempt that is being made is to control prices. If that is the case, I find that the Bill by itself would be of very little use. It is a question of the people not having the necessary purchasing power to buy food, and as such, Government should develop some system under which foodgrains can be released to the consuming public.

My hon. friend, the Leader of the Opposition Shri S. A. Dange, had said

that essentially the Bill aimed at procuring stocks from urban areas. In addition to that, I find that the provisions of the Bill also aim at procurement of stocks from the rural areas, and as such, when we go into the question of the rural areas, the basis of cornering these stocks would be a proposition vastly different from that involved in procuring very large stocks.

Here one definite factor seems to arise. Assuming that the Food Minister's figures of increased agricultural production are correct—of course, we could dispute them—assuming also that the total amount of money spent in the First Five Year Plan period has gone into the increase of these food supplies, one must first be absolutely clear in one's mind as to at what point these food supplies are today accumulating, and if so, what action Government is taking in the rural areas to corner or get hold of these stocks. Government is very keen to inform us, and has given us many statistics; over 220,000 villages have come under the Community projects. Now, a vast amount of money is being pumped into the rural side. Food production has been going up and it is my submission that a new type of middleman is today developing in the country. He is not the traditional stockist who buys foodgrains for the purpose of trading. But smaller agriculturists are today coming into the field. They have got additional prosperity in their hands. The cheap money policy that Government has put through, the money that is given to them in terms of short-term loans, in terms of co-operative finance loans that are being handed over to the farmers, and also the money that is being put in through the National Extension Schemes and the Community Projects—all these allow a type of farmer to develop who previously did not hold on to his stocks.

I come from a rural State—Andhra Pradesh. During the course of one of the answers, I think the Food Minister gave figures about loans having been given to peasants in Krishna and Godavari districts—I forget the exact amount of loans that were given. But

there is an example where on the one side, the peasants are being given ample and adequate loans by Government....

**Sardar Iqbal Singh:** (Ferozepur): Only 9 per cent. loans are given from co-operative societies throughout India.

**Shri V. Raju:** That may be so. I am giving a particular instance. I am referring to the double dose that is being given in these instances. On the one hand, Government is developing Community Projects. So to that extent, improved implements, better seed etc. are automatically going to these Community Development areas. On the other, the self-same peasantry is being given loans. Suppose previously a peasant owning 25 or 30 acres of land could stock foodgrains; today a smaller peasant owning 5, 10 or 15 acres could also stock foodgrains. So between the harvest time, say, January, and the monsoon period, say, July or August, the smaller peasant is today holding stocks which are not going into the hands of the stockists.

Therefore, to get hold of these hoarded grains—I won't use the word 'hoarded' because, after all, a man owning 5 or 10 acres does not hoard it; he keeps it for marginal profit five or six months later—no attempt can be made, unless Government makes up its mind to envisage a fundamental policy regarding these Community Development projects and generally its attitude to rural credit facilities to these peasants.

14.15 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

In the process of money being lent out to the peasantry, it is at that point that, I believe, some attempt should be made to collect grain in terms of these projects. Also this huge amount of money that is being pumped into the rural areas is crystallising itself at some point in the present land tenure system.

Therefore, I cannot see any possibility of this legislation being able to solve the problem because in years to come, more and more money is going

[Shri V. Raju]

to be pumped into the economy. It does not matter whether it is being pumped into the heavy industry section or even into consumer industries. But as it is, we know, and the Finance Minister has informed us, that he is not going to develop consumer industries; he is going into the heavy industry field. That means to that extent, money will become cheaper, but there will be no outlet for absorption of this vast and huge circulation that is going to be there in the country.

As such, Government has to make up its mind fundamentally as to what its attitude is going to be towards the basic structure of the agricultural economy. I am not going to delve—coming from the Opposition, I may have a tendency to do so—into the question of the farming section in relation to the ruling Party. I know that this upper middle peasant today is the backbone of the Congress Party. I do not want to go into that.

Therefore, it would be rather difficult, at least in my State, if we went back to a sheer policy of procurement. Let me be absolutely clear in my mind. The gap between the common man's purchase price, the capacity of the common man to buy food, and the cost at which Government will procure either for stock or for sale to him at ordinary prices will be so great and will begin to grow from year to year that I believe Government has to tackle this issue here and now. It is perfectly clear that this is only the beginning and within a year or two, the problem would be aggravated.

Therefore, I would suggest a two-fold policy. It is a policy of rational procurement that Government must evolve. From all Community and National Extension areas, wherever Government pours in money to develop agrarian economy, a grain levy should be introduced on the larger peasantry. I am not suggesting a quick manner or method of doing it. A rational approach may be there. It may apply to

holdings over 5, 10 or 15 acres; that is for adequate consideration. But grain levies towards the building of central grain stocks should be enforced in the Community and National Extension scheme areas.

Secondly, in such areas Government should desist from giving other forms of rural credit. There should be only one rural credit when a particular area is being developed. This will help to lessen what I would call the incidence of agricultural inflation that is taking place in these areas. If the second form of rural credit was given to other areas where Community Project and National Extension schemes were not taking place, a certain definite incentive would be there for those areas to increase their food production also.

In this manner, Government could spread out the scope of expenditure that is taking place in the country. I have nothing more to add except to say that I wish Government would take this as only a temporary measure and would come forward with a strong, definite and more comprehensive legislation, because the famine that is now growing, whether it be a price famine or a food famine—and I believe it is as much a price famine as a food famine—if it is to be bridged completely, then, the sooner the Government accepts a policy of rational procurement or a rationale for some sort of rationing of foodgrains at least in the cities, the better it will be. Otherwise, you will find the gap will begin to develop. I do not know if a partial rationing policy also would not be suitable at the moment. I think it would be highly suitable to this extent that the cities and centres of industrial production may be supplied with cheaper and better foodstuffs.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Before we proceed further we will have to be clear about how much time we will spend on the general discussion and how much time on the clause-by-clause consideration.

**Shri Mohiuddin (Secunderabad):** Only 15 minutes need be given to the clauses.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are so many amendments. Perhaps, the hon. Members might like to move them. It will take 15 minutes merely to read them.

**Shri Mohiuddin:** The hon. Members may not like to move all of them.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If the hon. Members want to move they must have the time. Therefore, some time must be allotted for clause by clause consideration.

We have today approved of the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee that 3 hours should be allowed. Of course, there is the discretion with the Chair that it can extend by another half an hour or so. But, now, we must have a clear idea about the time, whether it is 2 hours and 1 hour or 2½ hours and half an hour.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Four hours may be taken, 2 hours for the general discussion and 2 hours for the amendments, because there are about 32 to 35 amendments and they have to be gone through.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If the House so desires, I have no objection. If it is the desire of the House that the time should be extended by an hour I am prepared to sit. Then, we have 4 hours and it may be divided into 2 hours and 2 hours.

**Several Hon. Members:** Two and a half hours and 1½ hours.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas (Ujjain):** The hon. Speaker said that those who have tabled the amendment will speak on the main Bill as well as their amendments.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That would mean that I should call only those who have sent in amendment and not others.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur):** Could we not go straight into the discussion clause by clause?

That would shorten the period of discussion and quicken the decision.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That would not be liked by others.

**Shri M. E. Masani (Ranchi-East):** I do not wish to take very much time. There is only one point to which I would draw attention. That point is one which really is not an essential part of the Bill but has somehow crept into the Bill and I hope it will find its way out. I refer to the last two lines of this Bill which read:

"and the average market rate so determined shall be final and shall not be called in question in any court."

When this Bill was first circulated yesterday, I drew the attention of one of my senior colleagues from the ruling party to it and he said that this has become a bad habit. Well, if it has become a bad habit of ousting the jurisdiction of the courts of law in this country, I would urge that this House tries to stop from getting into this bad habit or allowing Government to persuade them to do so. There is no reason I can at all discern why in interpreting this particular market price, the average of the last three months, this particular ouster of the jurisdiction of the courts should be resorted to.

In the original Act, as it now stands, there are 3 particular ways prescribed in which the price can be fixed! (i) where there is an agreed price, (ii) where there is controlled price and (iii) where there is neither (i) or (ii), a price calculated at the market rate prevailing in the locality on the date of sale. But in the original Act as it stood there is no suggestion that the courts shall be excluded from considering whether the price prevailing—the market rate prevailing—in the locality on the date of sale should not be gone into if a person feels that the price has not been properly ascertained. It would be open to the stockist, whosoever he may be, may be a farmer, may be a small trader or may be a big

[Shri M. R. Masani]

trader There is nothing in this Bill that restricts it to big hoarders. We have an assurance of the hon. Minister—we are happy to have that but this Act will be on the statute-book and it may be implemented 10 years hence or 15 years hence by somebody in office in different circumstances. Are we going to add to the statute-book an engine of oppression against any citizen of this country?

I was arguing that in the original Act where the price is to be calculated at the market rate prevailing on the date of sale, no reason was given nor any attempt was made in 1955 when this Act was passed to oust the jurisdiction of the courts of law. In other words, any one who felt that the price had not been fixed properly would have the right to file a suit and go to court and get damages or the difference between the price that really should have been and the price which Government might have arbitrarily fixed. All the Statement of Objects and Reasons claims to do is, in place of the price on the date of sale, it now says that to prevent artificially inflated prices in the market, it shall be the market rate prevailing during the 3 preceding months. I understand that this is the real purpose of the Bill and I do not think that anyone in this House is opposed to this purpose.

We want to support Government in any fair measure of that nature. Why then have these last two lines been brought in, when there is nothing in the Statement of Objects and Reasons to justify it? It has not been suggested that the courts are perverse, that the courts have interfered in the fair fixing of the price under the original Act. Nothing of that kind has happened since the main Act was enacted. All that is required is that we should substitute for the market price, the price prevailing for the past 3 months. It should as legitimate for a man to appeal to a court of law if the average price of the previous 3 months is unjustly fixed as it would be to say that the market price on the date of sale was unjustly fixed. I must confess

that I am at a loss to understand why in an amending Bill for the clear purpose with which it has been brought in, we should bring in a clause of this obnoxious nature.

Let us consider another aspect, the bad drafting that will result if an appeal goes to a court of law under the old sub-clauses it will be in order. But, if under the new sub-clause, which would be temporarily in force for 3 months at a time, the price is fixed by a government officer appointed for the purpose and it happens to be an inaccurate or incorrect price, then the man who is affected by that is to be prevented from going to court. It is essential that a man should be able to appeal against an administrative decision on the question of price prevailing during the last 3 months. There is no reason why he should be prevented from doing so. I would like the hon. Minister to be fair in this matter, to consider whether one party should be penalised any more than the other party or whether the courts are to be ousted of their jurisdiction in one case than in another. There is nothing at all to fear from allowing the law to take its own course. In the Act, there is a clause or provision later on, section 15, which says that no suit or prosecution or legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything which is done in good faith or intended to be done in pursuance of an order under section 3. Later on, it is said that no suit or legal proceeding shall lie against Government for any damage caused or likely to be caused by any Act done in good faith in pursuance of clause 3 of the Bill. In other words, all that I am pleading is that after an order has been passed, after the price has been fixed, it should be open to an aggrieved citizen to have recourse to his legal rights.

The Government officer concerned and the Government itself will be protected and indemnified by section 15 of the present Act from any suits or proceedings which may be brought against them. All that I am saying is

that the ascertainment of the price should not be left arbitrarily to limb of the executive but that the common law rights and the due process of law should prevail. I appeal to the Minister not to complicate the issue before the House by insisting on this provision. The issue is very clear. He wants the price to be fixed on the basis of the last three months and not on the date of the sale. Let us stick to basis of this Bill. Why bring in a provision that has really no point in logic and no requirement in point of fact?

**सरदार इकबाल सिंह :** उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं उन लोगों के खयालात आप तक पहुँचाने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ जो कि किसान हैं और कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल का प्राइमरी फार्मर्स पर इतराक न किया जाए। कल डिनिस्टर साहब ने यकीन दिलाया था....

**श्री म० प्र० जैन :** भाज भी दिलाया है।

**सरदार इकबाल सिंह :** इस के बावजूद मैं कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ, जो कि मुझ से पहले बोलने वाले मेरे भाई ने भी कही हैं। इस लिए नहीं कि मैं नहीं चाहता कि हिन्दुस्तान में कोई आदमी अनाज का जखीरा इकट्ठा करे, मैं कोई ऐसे आदमियों का हमदर्द नहीं हूँ, लेकिन किसानों को कितनी तकलीफ और मुश्किलात हैं, यह आप भाज जानते हैं। भाज उन को जितनी मुश्किलात हैं, उन का हथर के रहने वाले खयाल भी नहीं कर सकते।

साथ ही मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हो सकता है कि आप एक मिनट के लिए मान भी लें कि किसानों से भी उसी कीमत पर अनाज लेना चाहिए जिस कीमत पर आप दूसरों से लेते हैं। लेकिन उन से उस कीमत पर नहीं लेना चाहिए। आप ताँचिए कि अब से पहले के सालों में उन लोगों के साथ क्या बीती। उन के कई साल ऐसे बीते जब कि खेतों में फसल नहीं आई, उन्हें किसानों का क्या देना है बाहर के बनिवों का और सरकार का ? जब तक आप उमाव वालों को न से तब तक आप

को कई हक नहीं है कि आप उस किसान पर इस बिल को लागू करें। हालाँकि मैं समझता हूँ कि यह उन पर लागू नहीं किया जाएगा, लेकिन फिर इस लिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि हो सकता है कि पाँच सात साल तक यह कानून स्टैट्यूट बुक पर चलता रहे, और कुछ प्रायमी आ कर उस के बाद इस को लागू कर दें। इस लिए मेरे दिल में शकूक है, सुबहाव है कि कहीं इस बिल का प्रायें चल कर चलव इस्तेमाल न हो जाए और इस को किसानों पर भी लागू न कर दिया जाए।

मुझ से पहले मेरे एक साथी ने कहा कि किसानों को बड़े कर्ज दिए जाते हैं। शायद वह नए नए इस हाउस में आए हैं शहर से आए हैं इस लिए उन्हें हिन्दुस्तान के देहात का पता नहीं है, न हिन्दुस्तान के देहातों में रहने वालों का ही पता उन्हें है। हमारा गिला तो यही है कि हमें सिर्फ तीन परसेन्ट कर्ज दिए जाते हैं, तीन परसेन्ट कर्ज को आप-रेटिव सोसायटीज के जरिए दिए जाने हैं, और तीन परसेन्ट कर्ज बैंक के जरिए दिए जाते हैं। इस के अलावा ६१ परसेन्ट कर्ज जो हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों पर हैं, वह हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार के नहीं, बल्कि उन लोगों के हैं जिन के कर्जों का सूद बहुत ज्यादा है। दूसरी तरफ हमारा गिला यह है कि यहाँ आज कम्युनिटी प्रोजेक्ट्स की कुछ बातें कही जाती हैं, उस का हाल देखिए। इस सिलसिले में मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश के किसान ने इस देश की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए बहुत यत्न किया है, लेकिन अगर इस बिल को आप उनके ऊपर लागू करते हैं तो यह अच्छा नहीं होगा। मैं तो कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह बिल इस तरह से बना है कि इस के अन्दर किसी को भी लिया जा सकता है। ही सकता है कि कोई ऐसा आदमी हो जिस के दिल में किसानों के लिए हमदर्दी न हो, कोई अफसर ऐसा हो जिस के अन्दर उन के लिए हमदर्दी न हो, तो मुझे शक है कि इस को गरीब किसानों पर भी लागू किया जा सकता है।



पंडित जगदुर दास भार्गव: इस के अलफाज साफ है, हर एक पर यह लागू हो सकता है।

सवार इकबाल सिंह: जैसा पंडित जी ने कहा, इस के अलफाज बहुत साफ हैं। इस लिए मैं उन लोगों के खयालों की तर्जुमानी यहां पर कर रहा हूँ जो इस देश में पैदा करते हैं, उन लाखों लोगों की जो कि भाज देहात में रहते हैं, जिन की बाबत आप भाज सोच भी नहीं सकते हैं।

मेरा गिला यह है कि अब तक देश में फसला नहीं हो सका है कि एक किसान का खर्च कितना है और उस की पैदावार की एकान्त्रिक प्राइस क्या होगी। इतनी कमेटीया बनाने के बाद भी आप देश के सारे सूबों की बाबत यह फैसला नहीं कर सके। आप नहीं जानते कि पंजाब में गदम पैदा करने पर कितना खर्च आता है और ट्रावनकोर-कोचीन में चावल पैदा करने पर कितना खर्च आता है। बाकी चीजों की पैदावार पर भी वह खर्च का फैसला नहीं कर सके। जब तक वह लोगों को सुविधाएं देने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, जब तक यह फैसला नहीं करते कि अगर देश में किसी किसान की फसल खराब जाए तो उस के लिए क्या किया जाए, जब तक आप उसकी फसल का इन्श्योरेंस करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, तब तक मैं समझता हूँ कि सरकार को कोई हक नहीं है कि प्राइमरी प्रोड्यूसर पर इस बिल को लागू करे।

जब आप यह फैसला करते हैं कि प्राइमरी प्रोड्यूसर की चीज किस कीमत पर ली जाए, तो आप को हर चीज के लिए यह फैसला करना चाहिए कि किस प्रोड्यूस को किस कीमत पर लिया जाए। यह नहीं होना चाहिए कि शहर में बसने वाले लोगों की चीजों पर प्राफिट देहात वालों से ज्यादा हो। फिर जब आप ने किसानों की मजलियत के लिए कोई इन्तजाम नहीं किया, उस को कर्जा देने का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं किया जब कि शहर के लोग जितनी सुविधाएं चाहे ले लेते हैं, तब तक आप प्राइमरी प्रोड्यूसर को किस तरह से

नजदूर कर सकते हैं कि वह किस कीमत पर, आप चाहें उस पर, अपनी चीज को बेचे? हमें हमेशा यही गिला रहता है कि हम जो पैसा करते हैं, तीन महीनों में उन की कीमत इतनी कम हो जाती है कि सारा धनाज बगैरह बाहर मार्केट में आ जाता है, और वही धनाज लोग खरीद लेते हैं। जिस धनाज की कीमत भाज १२ या १३ रु० होती है वही कल मार्केट में १८ और १९ रु० के हिसाब से बिकता है। यहां पर दो या चार साल का तबाल नहीं है, दो चार महीनों में ही यह फर्क दामों में पड़ जाता है। जब तक आप किसानों को जिन चीजों की जरूरत है, उन को उसी कीमत पर देने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं जिन से कि वह पैदावार सस्ती कर सकें, तब तक आप को कोई हक नहीं पहुंचता कि आप उन से अपनी मनचाही कीमतों पर चीजों को ले। हिन्दुस्तान के शहरों के लिए या जिन्हें आप इंडस्ट्रियल मेटर कहते हैं, उन के लिए २५ करोड़ रु० आप ने रखे हैं कि आप उन्हें सन्नि-डाइज्ड फूड देंगे। इसी तरह से जब तक किसानों की जरूरत की चीजें सही दामों पर देने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, तब तक आप इस को उन पर लागू न कीजिए। इस बिल के भी अलफाज हैं उन के मुताबिक यह किसी भी समय किसी पर लागू किया जा सकता है। यह ठीक नहीं है।

मैं यही बातें रखने के लिए खड़ा हुआ था। मुझे आशा है कि हमारे फूड मिनिस्टर साहब जा हैं, जिन को किसानों से पूरी हमदर्दी है, वह इस ऐक्ट को कम से कम इस ढंग में चलाएंगे जिस से कि प्राइमरी प्रोड्यूसर को नुकसान न हो। वह इतना ही कर दें कि जो लोग मंडियों में अपना गल्ला लाते हैं और पैसा कमाते हैं, वह उन्हीं पर लागू होगा।

Shri H. C. Mathur (Pali): Nobody in this House would hesitate to place in the hands of the Government and the hon. Food Minister any power



which is necessary to equip him to control the food prices, to keep the food prices at a level which we find it is necessary to keep at. But I feel that this provision which is being made is not likely to help the Government in any manner. I doubt very much if it is going to be effective in any way. I would like the hon. Food Minister to explain to us how he is going to be in a more advantageous position than his other colleague, the Minister for Commerce and Industry, in respect of certain commodities over which he has much better control. I would refer to steel. Now, so far as steel is concerned, the Minister of Commerce and Industry has got a much better control because he has the source of production in his hands. It is either imported or manufactured in manufacturing concerns. So, he has these sources under his control. The price is also controlled. If anybody wants to know, he can just make a visit to any place and find that even steel is not available at the controlled rate; but it is available in abundance at the black market rate. So, I would like to know how the Government is going to be in a more advantageous position and how the Minister is going to implement the provisions of this Bill in a manner that gives greater satisfaction to the country.

We know that there is nothing more important than foodstuffs and we also know that it should not be hoarded.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member should stand erect.

**Shri H. C. Mathur:** Today the food situation is exercising our minds and we all feel very much concerned about it. Even when we feel very much concerned we feel that the present situation arises because there has been certain administrative lapses. It is not that there is much of a scarcity; it is because the stocks of food which are available in the country are not properly handled. It was not through price control that our late Food Minister solved the food problem and gave satisfaction to the country. What we

are going to do is just to reverse what he did. What did that genius do? He took us away from the price control. We are just taking that dangerous step again and introducing price control. I wish to warn the Food Minister that people in this country are very allergic to price control and the results are going to be just contrary to his expectations. We are not going to have any effective results flowing out of the provisions of this Bill. Of all the anti-social elements, there is the least doubt that we detest the food hoarders but the food hoarder is not to be affected by these price control measures. It is only by other administrative measures that we can have some effective control over the food prices. Of course a correct step is being taken by building up food stocks in the various States. If ultimately other steps are taken and in the normal course we permit stocks to be utilised in the proper manner, I do not think there is any place for panic; otherwise, this measure will lead to a very panicky situation and have wrong psychological effect and it may have just the contrary effects and not which it is designed to prevent.

**Shri Tayabji (Jalna):** Sir, I want to take only a few minutes of this House to refute some of the arguments put forward by Shri Masani. When I saw the amendment standing in his name seeking to omit the words "and the average market rate so determined, shall be final and shall not be called in question in any court" from clause 2, I congratulated him. I congratulated him till I found out what his reason behind the amendment was. I also objected to those words but because they are mere verbiage. In any case once the price has been determined by an officer, it can not be questioned in court unless the officer has not acted in accordance with the procedure laid down for him. But, Shri Masani has a different purpose. He wants that there should be some kind of possibility of a recourse to the courts from the decision of the officer,

[Shri Tayabji]

Nothing could be worse than that. This type of rushing to courts every-time is already too much in existence. Our courts are full of cases where injunctions have been obtained against the Government. Therefore, I very strongly oppose the suggestion that these words be dropped. Instead I feel that they should remain, though they are perhaps verbiage. Having regard to the fact that this Act may well have to be interpreted in the lower courts, where niceties of this kind may escape. It is better to retain these words so that there shall be no recourse to the courts.

Dr. Krishnaswami (Chingleput): Mr. Deputy-Speaker,...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon Member takes just as much time as Shri Tayabji, perhaps all might be accommodated.

Dr. Krishnaswami: I shall try to compress and finish as quickly as possible.

I listened to my hon friend the Food Minister. I have tried to find out what the strength of the case that he has put forward is. Of course there is need for controlling food prices. This is accepted by everyone in this house and in the country. But the question is: What is the method that we should adopt for controlling these food prices? I agree further that the Government does not have enough stocks to influence market expectations. By this measure, it seeks to build up stocks.

I suggest that this should not be achieved by an arbitrary piece of legislation. This Bill has the stamp of arbitrariness on it. The price is the average price to be calculated by the Government. Quantities are quantities which the Government can decide upon for requisition. On what criteria the Government will form an opinion on what constitutes normal stocks, no one knows; nor we can obtain any light on this matter from the present Bill.

I should like my hon. friends to bear with me in my analysis of the consequences that would follow from our passing this Bill. One can visualise this Act operating not only in urban centres but throughout India, operating in urban and rural centres. In effect the incidence of this measure will vary from State to State and the variations in the regulation of stocks will depend upon the absolute discretion of the numerous state agencies. This would lead to discrimination. Even if the average level of prices is a matter on which an individual cannot go to a court of law, I believe that where there are arbitrary variations in amount of stocks that you can seize, an aggrieved individual can go to a court of law and invoke the provisions of article 14 of our Constitution. It is a point which has to be gone into and, I hope, the Hon. Minister will pay attention to it.

Pursuing this line of argument, even in the same State, stocks seized can vary from one area to another. The stocks that you are able to requisition may vary in the same State from one district to another depending on the zeal and enthusiasm of the administrator. These provisions will therefore, work arbitrarily and we must be chary of giving such powers to the executive. For, in the absence of criteria, as to what stocks can be legitimately held and what constitutes hoarding, the administrator is given full scope to requisition as much as he thinks fit furthermore there is no right of appeal to the Central Government either, according to this Bill. It all depends upon the enthusiasm of the district administrator and on what ideas he has on what meaning he attaches to a normal stock. Even in the same district, it may vary from one person to another. It might happen that an individual is able to sell, let us say, grain at Rs. 16 for two measures. Let us assume the control price to be Rs. 12 for the same amount. The District Officer may be able to compel another person on

another day and make him sell at Rs. 12, whereas the first person because he is lucky and has evaded the District officer can make a profit of four rupees. All these go to show that this Bill would be extremely arbitrary in scope. This measure reminds me of an examination where one has to trust to luck because the examiners are different and, indeed, the question papers are also different.

However, I do not want to adopt a very critical attitude at this stage. I realise that the Government are in difficulties. I do not want to return to the charge that the Government has mishandled the situation; that charge has been made on several occasions. But, on the present occasion, we have to get out of an awkward difficulty. May I suggest that there is an alternative method which the Government can and should adopt? The proper method to set about this problem, in my opinion,—and I leave it to the Minister to examine the step that I am suggesting—is to acquire at a specific price declared well in advance of the sowing season, a certain proportion of the agricultural output from each individual. It is essential also that the purchase price of Government is known in respect of all food-grains and the quantities which are to be sold are also known. Then there would be no arbitrariness at all and everyone would be treated fairly and without any discrimination at all.

This is what we should like the Government to do. But, unfortunately, it has chosen to do something different. Probably Government will argue that what we need is something which serves the immediate needs of the moment. Sir, I would like to have an assurance from the Government, before I give my support to this measure, that this is a temporary measure and that it will consider the advisability of adopting a measure say on the lines suggested by me. Otherwise I feel that we would be giving arbitrary powers, the executive powers which if exercised for a long while will lead in their wake to

harshness and ill-treatment. We know of the zeal of an administrator in rural areas, and many of us who have had complaints from our constituents realise only too plainly that too much, too much discretion being given to a rural administrator works havoc. The method suggested by me will also have the advantage of giving the Government a tangible control over food stocks. If, for instance, they fix the price just before the sowing season and indicate that they are going to requisition a certain amount of grain say about seven per cent of the produce of the farmer, then they can have about 3½ million tons to 4 million tons of food-grains. This stock will be valuable for combating any rise in prices which might occur in the difficult times to come. This will also give the Government an opportunity of combating inflation, which tends to be serious particularly in a year when food stocks are low and output is relatively stagnant.

पंडित ठाकुरदास भार्गव : जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैंने इस हाउस के अन्दर दो तीन रोज हुए एक तखवीज पेश की थी कि जिन इलाकों में स्कासिटी है, उन इलाकों में फूड भेजने का गवर्नमेंट को कोई इंतजाम करना चाहिए। मैं खुश हूँ कि उसके फौरन बाद ही यह बीजहाउस के अन्दर आई है। जिस नियत से यह बिल इस हाउस में पेश किया गया है, उसकी मैं दाद देता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि स्टॉक्स को इस तरह से डिस्ट्रीब्यूट करना चाहिए जिससे कि इन्फ्लेटेबल डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन हो और जो कीमतों को बढ़ने से रोकने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है, उसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ और उस हद तक मैं इस बिल को सपोर्ट करता हूँ।

आज हमारे स्पीकर साहब ने कहा कि इस बिल को इस हाउस के अन्दर रखने का ११ बजे रात को फैसला किया गया है। मैं यह कहे बर्गर नहीं रह सकता कि इसको इस तरह से बनाया गया है जिससे कि थोड़ा सा कन्फ्यूजन इसके अन्दर नज़र आता है। जो हमारे आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब के व्यूथ हैं

[वर्धित ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

धीर जो बूझ मेरे दोस्त हकबाल सिंह ने जाहिर किए हैं उनका जब मैं मुकाबिला करता हूँ तो पाता हूँ कि इन दोनों में कोई तफावत नहीं है। कुछ अर्सा हुआ आपने इस हाउस के अन्दर बेयर-हार्डसिंह कारपोरेशन बिल रखा था और उसको पास करवाया था। उस वक़्त आपने बड़े जोर शोर से यह चीज़ कही थी कि वह धादमी जो ग़ल्ला पैदा करता है, उसकी कीमत उसे उस वक़्त जब वह बेचता है, बहुत बढ़ी मिलती है। इसका जो फायदा उठाता है वह मिडिलमैन है। इसी चीज़ को देखते हुए और कल्टीबेटर को सारी कीमतों का फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए हम ने उस बिल को पास किया था। जहाँ तक इस चीज़ का ताल्लुक है कि कल्टीबेटर को फायदा पहुंचे इस में कोई बड़ा राय नहीं है। मैं खुश हूँ कि हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने यह ऐलानिया तौर पर कहा है कि वह इसके अन्दर ट्रेडर्स के साथ डील करना चाहते हैं जिसके माने में यह समझता है कि वह कल्टीबेटरों के साथ डील करना नहीं चाहते हैं और कम से कम छोटे कल्टीबेटरों के साथ तो बिल्कुल भी नहीं। मुझे उनकी तथा गवर्नमेंट की नियत पर कोई शक नहीं है। मैं मानता हूँ कि हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब छोटे कल्टीबेटर को उसके जायज़ हक से महकूम करना नहीं चाहते हैं। लेकिन इसमें छोटे और बड़े कल्टीबेटर का सवाल नहीं है, छोटे और बड़े डीलर का सवाल नहीं है। एक डीलर को जब तक आप फूडप्रैस में डील करने का अख्तियार देते हैं और जो आज खरीदता है कि मैं जब चाहूँगा बैचूँगा, यह उसकी लैजिटिमेंट ट्रेड है और इस में छोटे और बड़े का सवाल ही पैदा नहीं होता है और जब तक आपने काम्पैट्रियूशन में प्राइवेट प्रापर्टी के हक़ को तसलीम कर रखा है तब तक तो यह बिल्कुल भी पैदा नहीं होता है। हम उसकी प्रापर्टी को एक्सप्रोप्रियेट नहीं कर सकते। जहाँ तक कम्पेंसेशन का ताल्लुक है, उसके लिए हमारे पास दफा ३१ है। वह केवल इम्पूवेंबल प्रापर्टी के लिए नहीं है। बाहे कोई भी है, सरकार को हक़ नहीं है कि इस तरह से

यह किसी शक्त्त की जायदाद ले ले और ऐसी कीमत पर ले जिसकी कि वह मुकर्रर करे। यह एक उसूल है जिसको मैं समझता हूँ हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब भी मानेंगे और इस ले इन्कार नहीं करेंगे।

मैंने खुद यह तजवीज़ पेश की थी और मैं इस उसूल का कायल भी हूँ कि अगर किसी शक्त्त की कोई जायदाद पब्लिक परपज़ के लिए गवर्नमेंट ले तो उसका ठीक मुआवज़ा दे। कई सूरती में ऐसा होता है और कोई इस तरह की चीज़ सामने आ जाती है जिसके अन्दर कि पूरा मुआवज़ा देना गवर्नमेंट के लिए नामुम्किन होता है, पब्लिक के लिए नामुम्किन होता है। इस चीज़ को देखते हुए हम ने अपनी कास्टी-ट्र्यूशन के अन्दर तबदीली की और कहा है कि ऐसे मामले जस्टिशियेबल नहीं होंगे। हम ने उसके अन्दर यह कह दिया कि लैजिस्लेचर्स जो मुआवज़ा मुकर्रर करे उमी के ऊपर वह चीज़ ली जा सकती है। यह दफा ३१ की तबदीली थी। मुझे पता है कि यह एक उमी के मुताबिक है। इसके अन्दर हमारे दोस्त मसानी साहब ने बड़ी वजाहत से और बड़े अच्छे तरीके से कहा है कि चाहे जो भी चीज़ हो वह जस्टिशियेबल होनी चाहिये। मैं अर्ज़ करता हूँ कि मैं भी इस हक़ में हूँ कि कोर्ट की जुरिस-डिक्शन का जहाँ तक सवाल है, उसको हमें विचारना नहीं चाहिए। यह डेमोक्रेसी के अन्दर ग्रेटेस्ट बलवाक है। लेकिन मामले मामले में फर्क होता है। मसानी साहब ने दफा १५ की तरफ हमारी तबज़्जह दलाई है। मैं समझता हूँ कि दफा १५ ही उनकी बहम का जवाब है। यह दफा इस प्रकार है —

"No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Government for any damage caused or likely to be caused by anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of any order made under section 2."

संख्यान ३ के अन्तर जो पाबज गवर्नमेंट को दी गई है उसको अगर धाप दें तो पावेंगे कि इसकी ज्यादा पाबज गवर्नमेंट को दी गई है जिसका कि कोई ठिकाना ही नहीं है। इसके मुताबिक गवर्नमेंट कीमत मुकर्रर कर सकती है, किसी भी शक्त्त की चीज को ले सकती है और जहाँ वह ऐसा करती है वहाँ उसके खिलाफ कोई दावा नहीं हो सकता है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब कोई दावा गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ नहीं हो सकता है तो किस तरह से यह जस्टिफ़ेबल बनेगा। इम्पूवेबल प्रापर्टी के वास्ते लैजिस्लेचर ने जो तरीका मुकर्रर कर दिया है एक्वायर करने का इस दफा ३१ के अन्तर उसके मुताबिक तो कोर्ट्स के बुरिसडिकेशन को बाइप आउट कर दिया गया है।

15 hrs.

आपने वह हिस्सा जो कि तरमीम की तौर पर ओरिजनल बिल में ला रहे हैं कि गवर्नमेंट के अफसर उनके गल्ले के स्टॉक को लेते वक़्त उसकी कीमत मुकर्रर करें तो इसमें नये मुकद्दमान चलेंगे और इस तरह की चीज बन जायगी और आपका एक भी स्टॉक का शामिल करना मुकम्मिल नहीं हो सकेगा। हम लिये यह मामला जस्टीसिएबल नहीं हो सकता।

मे समझना है कि ओरिजनल एमेशियल कमोडिटीज ऐक्ट है और यह जो नया अमेरिडिज बिल हम हाउस के सामने लाये हैं उन दोनों के उम्मीदों में रात दिन का फर्क है। एमेशियल कमोडिटीज ऐक्ट बे सिर्फ़ इतना ही नहीं है कि उसमें मार्केट वैल्यू का जिक्र है और जो अल्फाज वहाँ पर रखे हैं उनको मुनाहिज़ा फर्माये। वे अल्फाज यह हैं

"Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), an order made thereunder may provide—

(1) for requiring any person holding in stock any essential

commodity to sell the whole or a specified part of the stock to such person or class of persons and in such circumstances as may be specified in the order;"

उनके अन्तर कोई जिक्र लोकैलिटी का नहीं है। किसी को हुक्म देना कि फला लोकैलिटी में बेचा जाय इसका कहीं जिक्र नहीं है लेकिन यह जो अमेरिडिज बिल आया है यह इस तरीके का नहीं है। इस अमेरिडिज बिल में लोकैलिटी का जिक्र है कि इस तरह का हुक्म दिया जायगा कि फला लोकैलिटी में इस हिसाब से उसे अपना गल्ला बेचना होगा। अगर इतना ही होता कि सरकार किसी का स्टॉक ज़ब्त कर लेगी और उस को कीमत देगी तो भी किसी कदर ठीक था लेकिन सरकार का तो इंटेंशन यहाँ पर किसी शक्त्त को यह हुक्म देने का है कि हर शक्त्त अपनी चीज उस भाव में बेचे जो कि गवर्नमेंट का अफमर मुकर्रर करे।

इस अमेरिडिज बिल में लिखा हुआ है कि एमेशियल कमोडिटीज की कीमत कैसे मुकर्रर होगी। पार्ट ३ में इस तरह लिखा हुआ है—

"(iii) Where, offer the issue of a notification under this sub-section, any person sells foodstuff of the kind specified therein and in the locality so specified, in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2), there shall be paid to the seller as the price therefor—

(a) where the price can, consistently with the controlled price of the foodstuff, fixed under this section, be agreed upon, the agreed price"

क्या मैं इसमें यह नज़र कि गवर्नमेंट अगर किसी शक्त्त के गल्ले को एक्वायर करने का हुक्म देती है तो उस गल्ले की कीमत गवर्नमेंट और उस शक्त्त के बीच एग्रीमेंट के जरिए एग्रीड प्राइस होगी ? मैं समझता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट की यह कमी मशाला नहीं हो सकती है क्योंकि इस तरह तो उसकी असली मशाला ही खत्म हो

## [संक्षिप्त डाक्टर दास जार्ज]

जायेगी। एक दूरीय धारणी जिसके कि पास गल्ला नहीं है वह लेने धारणा और उसको जो कीमत मांगे, वह देनी होगी और एग्रीड प्राइस के कोई भागे नहीं रहे। दूसरा तरीका प्राइस क्रिक्स करने का इस में जो रक्का गया है वह बिद रेकॉर्ड टू बी कंट्रोल्ड प्राइस है। तीसरा उपाय प्राइस क्रिक्स करने का इस में यह सुझाया गया है कि अगर इन दोनों तरीकों से काम न चले तो नोटिफिकेशन से तीन महीने पहले के लोकैलिटी के गवर्नमेंट के अक्रसर एवैज मार्केट रेट के हिसाब से गल्ले की प्राइस क्रिक्स कर होंगे। जो तरीका हम ने इन्फ्लूवेंसुल प्रापरटी के ऐक्वायर करने के लिए रक्का है कि इतना परसेंटेज लैंड रेवेन्यू का मुआबिजे के तौर पर दिया जायेगा और इतना परसेंटेज लैंड रेवेन्यू होगा, हम ने वही तरीका प्राइस के बारे में यहा पर बयान कर दिया है। यहा पर जैसा कि इन्फ्लूवेंसुल प्रापरटी के सम्बन्ध में ऐक्वीजीशन और ऐक्वायर शब्दों का इन्तेमाल किया गया है, वैसा ऐक्वीजीशन का सवाल नहीं है और थोडा उममें कन्फ्यूजन है। जब कोई कंट्रोल रेट सारे देश में मुकरर नहीं जैसा गवर्नमेंट ने ओबजेक्ट में लिखा है तो बिल में ए और बी और सी की पहली लाइन लिखने की कोई जरूरत नहीं थी।

डा० कृष्णस्वामी ने ठीक ही कहा है कि यह बिल ऐसा है जिस के मुनाबिक वर्क करना बड़ा मुश्किल होगा। इस बिल के अन्दर गवर्नमेंट को यह अधिकार दिया गया है कि जिस किसी के पास स्टॉक हो उसका स्टॉक लेने का आर्डर कर सकती है और डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेटो के ऊपर निर्भर करेगा कि वह किसी स्टॉकिस्ट से तो उसका माल ले और दूसरे स्टॉकिस्ट को छोड़ दे। इस तरह की आरबिटरेरी पावर जिला अधिकारियों के पास रहना मेरी समझ में कुछ ठीक नहीं होगा। इसी तरह का खयाल सरदार इकबाल सिंह ने भी जाहिर किया है। यह ठीक है कि हमारे भी अभीत प्रसाद जैन कल्टीवेटर्स से बहुत

हमबर्दी रखते हैं और मैं उनके व्यूज को बहुत अच्छी तरह जानता हूँ लेकिन न आजूम धाने चल कर कोई दूसरे साहब उनकी जगह आ जाय और जो कि जैन साहब के व्यू के न हों और यह सोच कर कि कम्प्यूनिटी डेवलपमेंट के मातहत हम ने लाखों रुपये खर्च किये हैं तो क्यों न उन कल्टीवेटर्स से कुछ खपया एंड मैं और इस तरह काफी गड़बड़ हो जायगी कि आप किसी से तो उसका स्टॉक लेंगे और किसी से नहीं लेंगे।

अगर आप इसको ठीक तरह से बर्क आउट करना चाहते हैं तो आपको एक बात करनी चाहिए और मैं उसके कहने से पहले आपको यह बतला दू कि मैं उन लैंडहोल्डर्स के हक में नहीं हूँ जिनके कि पास हजारों मन गल्ले के स्टॉक जमा है क्योंकि बं लोग तो लैंडलैस लेबरर्स से अपने होड ग्रैन की बहुत काफ़ी कीमत बमूल करते हैं। मैं तो चाहता हूँ कि एक मामूली शख्स जिसके कि पास ४००, ५०० मन गल्ला है, उसको आपको छोड़ देना चाहिए और मैं चाहता हूँ कि १००० मन तक गल्ला रखने वाले को आपको छोड़ देना चाहिए। यह जो गल्ले की दिक्कत और गड़बड़ी करते हैं यह बड़े बड़े स्टॉकिस्ट्स ही करते हैं छोटे छोटे कल्टीवेटर्स नहीं करते हैं। यह स्टॉक होल्डर्स एंड १ प्वाइंट आफ ऑनियट अपने जमा किये हुए गल्ले की कीमत मांगते हैं और लाचार होकर जरूरतमंदों को उनको वह भारी कीमत देनी पड़ती है और मैं आप के साथ हूँ कि आप इस बिल की मदद से ऐसे स्टॉकिस्ट्स से डील कीजिये।

एक बात मुझे यहां पर और कहनी है और वह यह है कि मान लीजिये एक जगह पर दस स्टॉक होल्डर्स हैं तो आप जिस स्टॉक होल्डर के लिए नोटिफिकेशन करेंगे वही अपना गल्ला आप के द्वारा क्रिक्स की हुई प्राइस पर बेचेगा और बाक़ी के ९ स्टॉक होल्डर्स को खुली छूट रहेगी कि वह जिस

क्रीयत पर बाह्य अपना गल्ला बेच सकें और बेरी धर्य यह है कि इस तरह आपका यह काम कैसे चलेगा। उस लोकेसिटी के अन्दर आपका कंट्रोल रेट होना चाहिए। और जब तक सब स्टोक होल्डर किसी लोकेसिटी में डील बिना न किये जायें तो कैसे कीमत एक उस लोकेसिटी में क्रायम होगी—आप ने न तो लोकेसिटी की और न होल्डिंग या स्टोक होल्डर की कोई तारीफ की न उनकी मीमा मतलाई।

डा० कृष्णास्वामी ने कई तर्जवीजे पेश की लेकिन वह सारी की सारी लॉग रेंज पालिसी की हैं। गल्ले के मुताबिक हमारी सरकार की और से एक एलान होता है कि हम गल्ले के मामले में सेल्फ सफिशिएट हो बने हैं लेकिन जब मैं दूसरे दिन अखबारों में यह खबर देखता हूँ कि भारत सरकार विदेशों से काफी तादाद में गल्ला मंगा रही है और गल्ला बाहर से मगाने में उसने २०० करोड़ रुपये खर्च किये तो मुझे बड़ी शर्म आती है और दुःख होता है कि आखिर यह माजरा क्या है। हम को एक पालिसी रखनी चाहिए और आनरेबल मिनिस्टर की तरह मुझे यकीन है कि हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर गल्ले का अकाल आज भी नहीं है और उच्चतर भर का गल्ला हमारे बहा है लेकिन यह जो गल्ले की कमी अनुभव की जा रही है यह मैलिडिस्ट्रिब्यूशन के कारण है। अगर आप गल्ले का इक्विटीबल डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन कर दें और कंट्रोल प्राइस मुकर्रर कर दें और वह प्राइस रीजनेबल होनी चाहिए ताकि उसको गल्ला बेचने में रीजनेबल मुनाफा हो जाय तो यह गल्ले की मुश्किल हल हो सकती है या अगर सिर्फ आप पाटं सी के अन्दर परमीम कर दें तब भी यह मामला हल हो सकता है। यह बेहतर होता अगर आज आप इस बिल को ऐसी जल्दी में न लाते और इसकी जगह पर सोब बिहार का अक्का आर्डिनेंस जारी कर देते। इस बिल के अन्दर मुझे जो दिक्कत और परेशानी की चोज नजर आती है वह यह है कि डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट व. अफिसर

को इस तरह की पावर दी गई है कि वह जिसको चाहे पकड़ के और उसका स्टोक लेकर उसकी कीमत मुकर्रर कर दें और सल्ले की क्रीयत सरकारी अधिकारी मुकर्रर करेगा और इस में आप कोर्ट्स को पावरलेस रखता है और वह इस में मदाखलत नहीं कर सकते। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब तक आप इस में गवर्नमेंट प्राक्सिसर की तय करवा प्राइस के खिलाफ अपील का प्राविधान प्रोवाइड नहीं करते और जब तक उसमें आप यह शब्द नहीं डाल देते "एप्रूव्ड बाई गवर्नमेंट" तब तक इस बिल का तसल्लीबकस नतीजा नहीं निकल सकता।

इसके अलावा गवर्नमेंट ने २५ करोड़ रुपयों की सबमिडी देने की जो जिम्मेदारी ली है उसकी तर्फ इस बिल में कोई जिक्र नहीं है। जिन इलाक़ों के अन्दर नोटिफिकेशन हो गया कि फला का गल्ला फला कीमत में बेचा जाय, यह तो आप ने तय कर दिया कि जिन शरुत में गल्ला लिया जाय उसको मुकर्रर करवा कीमत दे दी जाय लेकिन इसमें आपकी सबमिडी कहा आई। मैं तो आपको तबज्जह उन जेड्लेस लेबरर्स की तर्फ दिवाना चाहता हूँ जिनकी कि १०० रुपया सालाना आमदनी कूती गई है, उनको आपको फुड सबमिडी देनी होगी। अगर कीमतें अनाज की बढ़ रही हैं तो आपको उनको सबमिडी इज्ज करके गल्ला दिलवाना चाहिए। मैं नहीं चाहता कि यह सबमिडी दाहरो के बास्ते आमतीर पर इस्तेमाल की जाय। मेरे दीगर लायक दोस्तों ने भी इनी किस्म का टर जाहिर किया है और मैं हरगिज नहीं चाहता कि ऐसा हो। अगर हशर में गरीब आमदमी है तो उन के बास्ते यह इस्तेमाल हो कि आप उन क्लासेज को बता दें जो गरीब है, जिन की आमदनी इतनी बड़ी है कि वह अपना इन्तजाम रक मके। इनी लिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस कानून का असर ज्यादातर बहा हो जो कि देहात हैं। आप इस चीज को इस कानून में साफ कर दें और उनी सल्ला के लिए नॉमिडी दें जो उस से फायदा उठाने का



(पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव)

हकदार हो। अगर देहात में, जहाँ पर कि आदमी गरीब है, यह सन्निदाइज्ड फूड नहीं बिकेगा तो इस सन्निदाइ के देने का क्या फायदा होगा? इस लिए इस का भी इन्तजाम इस बिल में जरूरी है। ये धर्म करूंगा कि इन चीजों का इलाज इस बिल में हो जाए, या इस मौजूदा बिल को ही धर्म कर के रक्खा जाय ता कि इस की खराबिया दूर हो जाए।

**Shri B. C. Ghose (Barrackpore):** In so far as this Bill may help to relieve the present unhappy food situation, I do not think any Member will oppose it, but I am not quite sure as to what the purpose of the Bill is. Is it to prevent profiteering by hoarders or do Government feel this measure will have any material effect on the present food situation? The answer will probably depend upon our assessment of the present situation as to whether we consider that there is an absolute shortage of food or not I should like the hon. Food Minister to give his opinion as to what he considers to be the reasons for the rise in the present food prices.

It will appear from production figures that there should have been no reason for this rise in food prices because production in 1956 has been very much more than in 1955. Over the last 5 or 6 years, excepting probably 1953-54 production in 1956 has been the largest, but why is it then that food prices have been going up?

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Are you referring to the country as a whole?

**Shri B. C. Ghose:** I am referring particularly to rice; rice price have been going up and rice production on the other hand has been increasing over the last 2 years. Now, if our conclusion is that there is sufficient stock, but prices have been rising—I must say here that one can never be sure of these food statistics and the former Food Minister never went by

the food statistics—and if we say that production is sufficient then the conclusion would be that there must be hoarding at some place or other and the hoarding might be with the agriculturists, might be with the traders. The Food Minister in introducing this Bill had said that it was not his intention to apply this Bill to farmers and to small traders. Then he is applying this measure only to big traders; from this it would follow that he feels that the big traders are hoarding large amounts of food and also rice. But just a few months ago, we were told that the Reserve Bank of India had been restricting advances to people who were dealing in food—the food traders—and they also claimed that these measures have had a good effect. I should like to know what the estimation by the Food Minister is. Does the Food Minister feel that there had been a large amount of hoarding done by the big traders and even though the Reserve Bank of India took certain steps in restricting advances that those measures have had no or little influence? Only if the Food Minister can convince us that this is so, his measure may have some effect in so far as the real food situation in the country is concerned; otherwise, his measure will not bring out food in any large measure. Of course, it might help in preventing profiteering by some of these hoarders, who are big traders. My difficulty is in trying to understand what the effects of this Bill would be because if there is not a large stock with the big traders, then all the difficulties which my previous speaker mentioned would arise and I do not want to repeat his arguments.

**Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am in agreement with the objectives of this Bill so far as it seeks to check hoarding, and the spiral rise in prices. But after analysing the Bill I am led to believe that this is merely a mud-pack cure for high blood pressure.

**An Hon. Member:** Does he mean mud-pack?



**Shri Mahanty:** Yes, the fact is to be noted that of late the prices have been rising high and according to the Government figure it has increased by 13 per cent. from 373.4 to 421.9 during the last year. On February 16th of this year, the index stood at 424.4 which far surpassed the peak figure that was reached during the Korean War Crisis. On the one hand we find this spirally rising food prices and on the other hand we increased food production. Not very long ago, I think on the 14th of this month the hon. Food Minister in a statement that he made in this House said:

"The latest position is that the production of rice this year has been 28.1 million tons which is an all time record."

But let us now investigate the rice prices during the past year. I hope the hon. Food Minister would condescend to give some reply on this point. On the one hand, he admits that there has been a record production. On the other hand we fail to understand why the price of rice will go on spirally rising like this. For instance in the year 1950 it was an year of all round scarcity. But the rice price index was 514. 1951 was also a very unfortunate year and then even it was 544. In the year 1956 it was 596. The Government need not appoint a Commission or a Committee to investigate this. Simple commonsense would tell us that hoarding has been mainly responsible for this spirally rising food prices.

Now my hon. friends Shri Masani and Dr. Krishnaswami have said that the Bill is quite arbitrary. In the scheme of this Bill there is an amount of arbitrariness and that we should not entrust an engine of oppression in the hands of Government. That is so. There is a large measure of truth in what has been stated. But is it intended that the hoarders should be shown any amount of sympathy? It has been said that there are elements of arbitrariness in the scheme of the Bill, but what about

the hoarders and speculators whose arbitrary actions of hoarding and speculation have resulted in this crisis and in this kind of all round misery, starvation and privation. I am at one with the Government so far as they seek the power to eschew the law courts from the operation of this measure. After all law does not operate in Vacuum. Law has a social obligation to fulfil.

There is another thing which I want to mention in this connection. This bill seeks to put premium on hoarders. According to sub-clause (c) of clause 2 (iii) the prices will be fixed according to the average of the rate prevailing for a period of three months immediately preceding the date of the notification, which let us hypothetically assume, is issued on the first of June 1957. Now the food prices during the preceding three months have been an all-time record in India. We have got figures upto January 1957. We have not got figures for February, March and April. I would ask the Food Minister: is it intended that a premium should be put on the hoarders by stabilising the high price? Is it the intention to subsidise hoarding so that the prices which will be paid to them will be computed on the basis of the high price prevailing during the last three months? The other day we read in the papers that the Congress Working Committee was considering the proposal how to bring about parity between the farmer's price and the manufacturer's price. Some hon. members seem to entertain the view that the peasants or farmers are holding stocks of foodgrains in their homes which they release to the market. That is not so. At least that has not come to my knowledge and I have sufficient intimacy with our countryside. The actual position is this. The farmer is eager to sell his foodstuffs in the market for whatever price he gets so that he can rid himself of the loans which he has incurred during the year and he has no bargaining power. The entire thing goes into the hands of the stockists, the traders and the

[Shri Mahanty]

hoarders. Therefore if you are to pay these hoarders the price on the basis of the price which prevailed during the preceding three months of the year 1957, you will only subsidise hoarders. If you are really to subsidise food prices as has been stated in the statement of Objects and Reasons, there is no reason why this provision should be there. I have proposed an amendment and I do not desire to speak at length at this stage. I would beg of this House to examine this clause and examine whether we are not going to subsidise the hoarders. I am sure the House is not going to put a premium on the hoarders whose anti-social activities have resulted in an all round catastrophe.

Shri Bharucha: Sir, one is rather surprised that the Hon Food Minister, so soon after stating that the food prices have not risen, has to place before the House a Bill to amend the Essential Commodities Act. I would like to ask the Minister: When did the prices rise? We had been told that there is no general rise in prices, now a measure is brought in for the purpose of securing supplies and to make them available at prices within the reach of the masses. Either the statistics or the Minister is wrong. I would like the Hon Minister to clear this point. We are not against giving powers to the Government to procure foodgrains if there is a tendency in the country to hoard foodgrains and to sell them at unconscionable profits. I want to know whether the price should be the price which is a record price for all time. The least that the Government should have done to the interest of the tax-payer is to fix it at the price which is lowest during the three months; this price should be taken as the criterion. I also fail to understand why Government should insist upon some agreement between the vendor and the purchaser. Why should they not fix prices and proceed to acquire foodgrains? We are not opposed to giving extra powers to the Government. But we are not sure, even if

this measure is rushed through this House, whether this measure will be availed of by the Government soon. The Minister has stated that he will watch the situation and take further steps. The time for watching the situation has gone and the time for action has come. I trust the Minister will promulgate the necessary notification that is required in time.

I am not in favour of procuring such stocks from the farmer. He is finding it difficult to produce foodgrains in the midst of onerous taxation and rising costs. I am in favour of making the provisions of this Bill applicable strictly to the stockists. It is not enough merely for the Government to acquire this power. Unless the Government prescribes very heavy penalties for the hoarders of foodgrains it will not be possible for the Government to implement the provisions of the Bill effectively. The Government should have larger buffer stocks and a net work of fair price shops. I also appeal to Government to see whether we cannot expedite the delivery of the stocks which we are procuring from America under August 1956 agreement and P.L. 480. If something could be done in this direction I am sure it will assist in bringing down the prices. I am in favour of giving powers to the Government but I want that the powers so given could not be used against the small farmers. I want an assurance from the Minister that the provisions of this measure will not be used against the farmer in fairness to that class of society.

Shri Mohamed Imam: Mr Deputy Speaker, I have moved an amendment to the effect that before this Bill becomes law, the concerned State Governments must be consulted and their opinions obtained, because we are going to pass this law for the entire country, but it is the States that have to administer the law. It is they that have to hold the baby and it is the State Governments that have to bear the odium or acquire unpopularity. So, without consulting

them to pass this into law looks very highly inappropriate

Sir, in all measures of this type the State Governments are consulted and their opinions obtained and it is only then that such a Bill is introduced and it becomes law. Sir, Government perhaps is guided by the opinion expressed by the representatives of some States like Bihar, Bengal and others, but the opinion of the Governments of other States is not before the Government. Perhaps it may be that conditions are better there, or it may be the problems are quite different, or it may be such a measure may cause more harm than good. So, I cannot understand the hurry with which the present Government wants to proceed with this measure. Sir, till very recently it was announced by Government that they were going to appoint a high-power committee to investigate the causes that have led to the rise in prices of food-grains. I will just read the relevant portion

"While Government will continue to watch the situation and will take further steps whenever necessary, they have come to the conclusion that the whole question requires thorough investigation and have decided to set up a high-power committee to investigate fully into the causes for rise in prices, despite higher production and to suggest immediately and from time to time remedial measures which could prevent speculative hoarding and arrest undue rise in prices"

Sir, this was announced only very recently. I would like to know whether Government still propose to appoint this high-power committee to investigate the causes, and if so, it would have been quite appropriate to bring this Bill after the opinion of the high-power committee was obtained. Now it looks the Government are going back on their own proposals perhaps, as was contemplated by them earlier, they do not want to appoint a high-power committee and

this is rather inconsistent. So, I would like to ask what about their announcement? What about their proposal to appoint a high-power committee?

Sir, problems differ every year. We all appreciate the anxiety of the Government to help the poor and to see that reasonable prices prevail throughout the country. But I am not convinced that this measure will help or will have the desired effect.

Sir, this year the problem is how to bring down the prices and it is believed that hoarding is the main cause of the rise in prices. On the other hand the problem was quite different during the two previous years. The problem during the previous years was how to support the prices and how to increase the prices. I will just give the relevant portions from the report

"During the previous two years prices of foodgrains were low and in fact, steps had to be taken by Government to arrest the downward trend of prices by resorting to a policy of price support and offering to purchase foodgrains at certain minimum prices"

So, that was the problem during the year 1954-55 and 1955-56. This year the problem is how to step down the prices and hoarding is supposed to be the cause of this. Sir, I believe hoarding is not the main cause of the rise in prices. There are other more important causes which have to be tackled. It is not the price of foodgrains alone that has gone up. The price of every essential commodity that is needed by the common man has gone up. The price of sugar has gone up, the price of cloth has gone up, the price of every conceivable article has gone up and correspondingly the price of foodgrains has gone up. So, we must come to the inevitable conclusion that the prices have gone up not merely because people are hoarding, but because of inflation. It is the inflationary policy of the Government that is responsible for the high prices of food

[Shri Mohamed Imam]

materials, unless the causes of this inflation are removed, I can say vehemently that the prices will remain the same

It is the present Government that is mainly responsible, it is the over-spending by Government. The foreign policy of this Government has involved us in a payment of nearly Rs 120 crores by way of debt services. It is their over taxation or deficit financing that is responsible for the rise in prices of not only food-grains, but of other commodities that are needed for consumption. So, unless these are removed, this inflation will continue and there will be more trouble. These root causes have to be tackled. I agree with the suggestion to appoint a committee. I wish the Government had pursued their decision of appointing a high power committee. They would have investigated, they have found out the causes, or at least the root causes. I do not know whether Government intend to pursue that policy or not.

Personally I am for free trade. Many of us remember the sad and bitter experience we had during the days of control. Many of us remember how unscrupulous persons had their heyday and how they took advantage of the black-market. It may lead to scarcity. It may lead to further hoarding, because we know from experience that when such a measure is introduced people know how to hoard and how to conceal their stock in spite of your vigilance. So, such a measure instead of doing good may lead to further harm. On the other hand, it may be a further cause of worry. It may create immense difficulties for ryots and other poor people, people who are quite sincere and honest.

You have not defined what hoarding is, you have not defined to what extent hoarding is allowed or legalised. Supposing a ryot has got a stock of two or three maunds. It can come under the term "hoarding". It

is quite usual that a ryot will have with him his normal requirements for one year. Are you going to consider this stock which he needs for his daily consumption as hoarding? I can tell you from my personal experience that ryots and even stockists also never hoard indiscriminately. A ryot will have with him what he needs for consumption. In these days of uncertainty, when the markets are uncertain, even the stockists do not hold on for a long time. This plea that the rise in prices is due to hoarding has become a very convenient excuse. But I give a warning that this measure alone will not help to bring down the prices, on the other hand I warn you that you will be getting into further and further complications.

That is why, though I am in sympathy with this measure and am second to none in my desire to bring the necessary relief to the poor and the needy, I wish to say that you must proceed with caution. Because, in your attempt to help the poor, you may create immense hardship. That is why I submitted that the public opinion should also be gathered, let the public see how they feel about it whether they want it or not.

I know in the days of controls—because I had something to do with it and I was also associated with a Government—how all our *bona fides* were questioned, how all our laws were defeated. I know, to carry out a policy we will have too many laws, regulations and so on. But the more we make laws and the more we bring regulations into effect, the greater will be the disrespect entertained by the people.

So, before adopting this measure I want you to follow a cautious policy, to go slow and to adopt only such measures as will be effective in really helping the poor and helping the country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I find there is a very large number of hon. Members desirous of speaking on this Bill. I

can appreciate their anxiety to participate in the debate, but the restriction placed by the House itself should also be before their minds.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** At least one Member from each State should be given an opportunity.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I desire that every one of the hon. Members wanting to speak may be given an opportunity, but my difficulty should also be appreciated by the hon. Members.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** We appreciate it. But at least, if you think it proper, Members on a regional basis might be allowed to have their say.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon Members are also aware that there is a business of three hours after we have finished this, unless the hon. Mover of that Resolution, who has to continue his speech, agrees to put it off to the next Session—because it would not lapse. So, unless he agrees, that also has to be gone through. Therefore, everything has to be borne in mind before we ask for more and more time. And this Bill must be finished by about six o'clock, because it has to go to the other House, and the other House shall have to sit for an additional day for passing it.

Now I will request hon. Members to be very brief in their observations.

**श्री सिंहासन सिंह (गोग्रवपुर)**

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो विधेयक भवन के सामने आया है उसमें यह बात प्रमाणित हो जाती है कि हमारे देश में या तो अन्न की कमी है या अन्न की बहुलता होने हुए भी कुछ लोगों ने अन्न को इस रूप में दबा रक्खा है जिससे कि उसका वितरण बड़ी तरिकों में नहीं हो पा रहा है।

अभी कोई दस रोज हुए जब इस भवन में बड़े जोरो से यह कहा गया कि न तो हमारे देश में अन्न की कमी है और न अनाज के भाव बढ़ हैं लेकिन यह विधेयक स्वतः साबित करता है कि अन्न की कमी है और भाव भी बढ़े हैं।

इस विधेयक की जो प्राक्कटित एंड रीजस दिये गये हैं उनके अन्दर यह कहा गया है कि अनाज के भाव बढ़ रहे हैं। अभी तक आ जो कानून है उसके अन्दर ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं है कि हम चालू बाजार की कीमत से कम भाव पर गल्ले को ले सकें, और इसलिए यह विधेयक लाना आवश्यक, प्रतीत हुआ। चालू बाजार की जो कीमत है वह इतनी अधिक है कि उस कीमत पर गल्ला लेने से कोई कल्याण लोगों का नहीं हो सकता है।

मुझे एक डर इस बात का है कि इस विधेयक के पास हो जाने के बाद कहीं यह न हो कि हम कंट्रोल की तरफ झुकें। कंट्रोल का हमें काफ़ी कटु अनुभव प्राप्त है और हम न देखा कि कंट्रोल के कारण देश में बहुत प्रकार की बुराईयाँ आ गईं। हम स्वयंसेवक श्री अहमद क़िदवाई साहब के बड़े कृतज्ञ हैं कि जिन्होंने बावजूद उन तमाम सरकारी आकाड़ों के जो कि कंट्रोल को बनाये रखने के पक्ष में थे, उनकी पगवाह न करते हुए हिम्मत से काम लिया और कंट्रोल को हटा लिया और हम न देखा कि कंट्रोल उठाते ही गल्ले के दाम नीचे गिरने शुरू हो गये।

यह विधेयक गल्ले की कमी को दूर करने और कीमतों को बढ़ने में रोकने के उद्देश्य से लाया गया है और मैं उसके उद्देश्य से सहमत हूँ और यह विधेयक पास होना भी चाहिए लेकिन मुझे शक मालूम होता है कि हम इस विधेयक से गल्ले की समस्या को सफलतापूर्वक हल कर सकेंगे और मेरा ऐसा सन्देह करने का कारण यह है कि इस विधेयक का अवधि काल केवल तीन महीने है, तीन महीने तक ही यह लागू रहेगा और तीन महीने के अन्दर अगर किसी के पास गल्ले का बड़ा स्टॉक मौजूद है और अगर उसके स्टॉक लेने और प्राइस फ़िक्स करने के लिए नोटिफ़िकेशन करने में कुछ देर हो गई और तीन महीने बीत गये तो फिर हम उसको ले नहीं सकते हैं और उसके लिए नया नोटिफ़िकेशन करना पड़ेगा। इसके अलावा मैं गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात भी लाना

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

चाहूंगा कि आज से तीन महीने पहले गेहूँ का भाव बढ़ा हुआ था, इधर गेहूँ का भाव कुछ गिरा है क्योंकि हमारे कास्तकारों के पास अपने अन्न को होड़ करने के बास्ते पैसा नहीं है, अपनी जरूरतों के बास्ते मसलन शादी ब्याह के कारण उसको गल्ला सस्ते दामों पर बेच देना होता है क्योंकि पैसा उसके पास है नहीं, गल्ला जमा करने के लिए गोदाम उनके पास है नहीं और मालगुजारी भदा करनी होती है इसलिए वे गल्ले को रख नहीं पाते और सस्ते दामों पर बेच कर अपना काम चलाते हैं। अन्नबन्ता महाजन लोग जिनको कि रुपया प्राप्त है, अनाज भर लेते हैं और देर से बेचते हैं और काफ़ी मुनाफ़ा कमाते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि बेयरहाउसिंग कारपोरेशन एक्ट लागू हो गया होना, किन्तु अभी तक किसी स्टेट ने उसको पाम नहीं किया है, अगर वह चालू हो गया होता तो हमारे कास्तकारों की बहुत दिक्कतें दूर हो जाती। आज सरकार उनको दिक्कतों को दूर करने और गल्ले की समस्या को हल करने के लिए अनेकों उपाय कर रही है लेकिन वे दिक्कतें दूर नहीं हो रही हैं।

इस सिलसिले में मैं उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार द्वारा प्रकाशित कुछ आकड़े सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ। सन् १९५१-५२ में ७१ लाख एकड़ ज़मीन सरकारी ट्यूबवैलों या नहरों से सींची गई जब कि सन् १९५५-५६ में, जब कि इसी बीच गवर्नमेंट ने ३० करोड़ रुपये खर्च करके अनेकों ट्यूबवैल लगवाये और नहरें खुदवाईं, तब केवल ६८ लाख एकड़ भूमि की सिंचाई की गई जिसका कि मतलब यह हुआ कि इन वर्षों में ३ लाख एकड़ भूमि की सिंचाई कम हो गई। जब कि ३० करोड़ रुपये खर्च किया गया और अनेकों ट्यूबवैल और नहरें लगवाई गईं तो सिंचाई का क्षेत्र क़ायदे से बढ़ना चाहिए था न कि घटना। तो इस तरह की गड़बड़ हमारे काम में और सरकारी योजनाओं में चल रही है।

गोरखपुर में जहाँ ट्यूबवैल बने हैं वहाँ ईस बोलने वालों की ईस बिना पानी के सूख रही है। गवर्नमेंट की बिजली लगी हुई थी उससे डेढ़ सौ ट्यूबवैल चालू होते थे। इसी बीच पंचवर्षीय योजना में ५०० ट्यूबवैल लगाये गये। इन से डेढ़ सौ ट्यूबवैल बिजली से चल रहे थे—क्योंकि-उतने ही के लिये वह बिजली की क्षमता थी—बाकी ये चल रहे थे डीजल इंजन से। इसी बीच बिजली डिपार्टमेंट ने सब में बिजली दीवा दी। डीजल आयल वालों ने यह कह कर अब तो बिजली दीवा दी गई है अपनी डीजल आयल की मशीनें हटा ली। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि किसी को पानी नहीं मिल रहा है और सब के खेत सूख रहे हैं। बिजली इस उम्मीद पर उन्होंने दीवा दी कि नया बिजली का कारखाना खुल रहा है उसकी बिजली आ जायेगी। अभी यहाँ आने समय में न बिजली के अधिकारी से बात किया। उन्होंने कहा, इस उम्मीद पर हम न बिजली लगा दी कि नये कारखाने की बिजली मिल जायेगी—किन्तु वह न मिल सकी। और अब चार महीने बाद आने वाली है। इस तरह में जो सिंचाई का साधन था उसको भी हटा दिया गया और परिणामस्वरूप अब ईस सूख रही है। मैं स्वयम् मुक्त भोगी हूँ। आप को यह सुन कर हैरत होगी। तीन बजे में बिजली मिलती थी जब ट्यूब चल पाता था। मैं ने पानी मंगवाया। ३ बजे बिजली मिली और ८ बजे पानी पहुँचा। १० बजे पानी बन्द हो गया। इतनी दूर से पानी के आने पर मूश्किल से ६ बिस्वा ज़मीन सींची जा सकी, और दाम कितना देना पड़ा २४ यूनिट बिजली का। हमारे यहाँ ६ आ० यूनिट बिजली है। इस तरह से ६ आ० बिजली के हो गए।

एक आननीय सदस्य : इंडस्ट्रियल बिजली ६ आ० है ?

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : जी हाँ, इंडस्ट्रियल बिजली ६ आ० यूनिट है। इस तरह की चीजें

चल रही हैं। अगर इस तरह गवर्नमेंट ध्यान देवे तो काम चल सकता है। बेयरहाउसिंग का सस्ता इस्तेमाल करे। २५ करोड़ ४० की सन्निधि है, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि वह इस सन्निधि का रूप बदल दें। काश्तकारों को बिना सूद के द्यूबनेल लगाने के लिए, और इम्प्लिमेंट्स खरीदने के लिए ४० देवे, तो एक साल के अन्दर सारा काम ठीक हो सकता है। रफ़ी साहब के समय का हाल फिर हो सकता है, आप को भी आशीर्वाद मिलेगा। लेकिन आज तो सन्निधि दे कर शहर के लोगों को ही सुविधा मिल रही है, उन को कम कीमत पर अनाज मिल रहा है, गरीबों को ही नहीं मिल रहा है, अमीरों को भी मिल रहा है। जैसा हमारे भार्गव साहब ने कहा, यह सन्निधि अगर किसानों को मिले, जिन गरीब मजदूरों के पास खेत नहीं है, उन को मिले तो इस का ठीक इस्तेमाल हो सकता है। फिर यह सन्निधि मिलती किस पर है ? गेहूँ पर। गांव वाले बेचारे गेहूँ किधर आते हैं ? वह तो बाजरा, मक्की और ज्वार खाते हैं। आज इन चीजों का भाव महंगा है और गेहूँ का सस्ता है। फिर उस पर भी सेल्स टैक्स लगता है। दूर दूर से लोग इन चीजों को खरीदने के लिये आते हैं, दो दो मील चल कर आते हैं कि अनाज कुछ सस्ता मिले, लेकिन उस पर बजाय सस्ता मिलने के सेल्स टैक्स और लग जाता है। गवर्नमेंट को चाहिए कि इन चीजों पर ध्यान दे और जो रुपया हमारा खर्च होता है वह सही तरीके से खर्च हो और गरीब लोगों के इस्तेमाल में आए। किसानों को सन्निधि के रूप में, इंटरैस्ट फ्री लोन के रूप में, दिया जाए, तो मैं कह सकता हूँ कि साल भर के अन्दर इतना गल्ला हो जाए कि आप गल्ला बाहर भेज सकते हैं, जैसे आज आप चीनी भेज रहे हैं। लेकिन भेजें कैसे ? गोरखपुर, देवरिया और बस्ती चीनी प्रोड्यूस करने का बड़ा भारी क्षेत्र है। वहां कुल मिला कर करीब २३ या २४ मिलें हैं जो कि सारे देश की तिताई हैं। वहां पर ईश सूख रही है, भागे

उनकी क्या हालत होगी कहा नहीं जा सकता। हमें इस से भयलब नहीं कि उन अफसरों को जिन्होंने यह काम किया सजा हुई या नहीं, लेकिन हम किस को रोए। इस लिए यह बिल इस रूप में आए जिस से कुछ लाभ हो सके। आज जो इस का रूप है वह कुछ गड़बड़ सा है। उस में दोनो तरह के नोटिफिकेशन करने होंगे। एक दफा ३ में करना और दूसरा दफा ३ए में करना होगा। ३ए में यह करना होगा कि भाव फिक्स कर दे। इस के लिए मैं ने एक अमेन्डमेंट दिया है। दफा २ए के अन्दर जो प्राविजन है उसे निकाल दिया जाए और जैना भार्गव साहब ने कहा कि २ एफ में यह प्राविजन कर दिया जाए कि जो ४० मन से कम रखता हो उसे छोड़ दिया तब यह बिल कुछ फायदा पहुंचा सकती है।

अब मैं ज्यादा न कह कर इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि बेअरहाउसिंग का जो प्राविजन है, जैसा कि मैं ने अर्ज किया है, उस को जल्दी से जल्दी लागू किया जाए। और जितना रुपया काश्तकारों को भी आप इंटरैस्ट या सन्निधि के रूप में दिया जा सके, दिया जाए, ताकि वह गल्ला पैदा कर सकें। ऐसा करने के बाद हो सकता है कि यह बिल जरूरी न रह जाए।

इस बिल का अनाज मैं बहुत अच्छा नहीं समझता, क्योंकि इसके जरिए हम कंट्रोल की तरफ बढ़ रहे हैं। कंट्रोल की तरफ बढ़ना मैं बिल्कुल अच्छा नहीं समझता। जैसा गांधी जी ने कहा था कंट्रोल हमें बरबाद कर रहा है, उस से हमें रफ़ी साहब ने बचाया। मैं कहता हूँ कि आप इस तरफ कदम बढ़ाए। अगर आप नहीं बढ़ाते हैं तो भले ही हम थोड़े दिन इस को सह लें, लेकिन मुझे डर है कि इस के लागू होने के बाद काश्तकार के पास गल्ला रह ही नहीं जाएगा। जैसा जैन साहब ने फरमाया यह होलसेलर्स के लिए है। यह उनकी सम्भावना है लेकिन कानून में ऐसा नहीं है। इस लिए जो अमेन्डमेंट भार्गव साहब ने दिया है कि उसे



[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

मान लेना चाहिए कि ४० मन तक गल्ला जन्त न हो।

एक माननीय सदस्य : १,००० मन।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : १,००० मन तो बहुत हो जाएगा। आखिर १,००० मन तो बड़े बड़े लोग ही रखते हैं, छोटे काश्तकार लोग नहीं रखते। १,००० मन रखने में यह कानून बेमानी हो जाएगा। इस लिए ४० मन ही रखना चाहिए। हो सकता है कि पंजाब में इतने बड़े बड़े काश्तकार मिल जाए। लेकिन हमारे यहां तो छोटे छोटे काश्तकार ही होते हैं। यह मेरा सुझाव है, मैं आशा करता हूँ कि आप इसे मान लेंगे और आप अपना रवैया इस तरह का रखिए कि अधिक से अधिक गल्ला पैदा हो सके। लेकिन इस के लिए शर्त यह है कि किसी तरह का कंट्रोल न हो।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Radhelal Vyas.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Thiruvella): We should also get a chance

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have absolutely no objection to continuing this discussion. But, the difficulty is that this has to be placed on the Table of that House today. I will try to accommodate as many Members as possibly I can.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): Hoarding is going on

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I take note of that.

, श्री राजे लाल व्यास उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस उद्देश्य से यह बिल रखा गया है, उस उद्देश्य के बारे में तो कोई मतभेद इस सदन में हो नहीं सकता, और न किसी को है। लेकिन जो शंका है वह यह है कि वह, उद्देश्य सफल हो सकेगा या नहीं क्योंकि इस कानून के साने में इतनी देर हो गई है और लागू करने में तो शायद और भी बिलम्ब होगा। मुझे

तो यह शंका है कि जब गवर्नमेंट इस बिल को तहत कार्यवाही करने के लिये सोचेगी तो शायद वह इस परिणाम पर पहुंचे कि अब इस पर कार्यवाही करना बेकार सा होगा। पहले ही यह कार्यवाही होनी चाहिये थी। जब कि यह मालूम था कि देश में कई जगह बाढ़ व ओलों से फसल का काफी नुकसान हुआ है और नई फसलें आने के पहले जब पुरानी फसल के भाव काफी चढ़ गये थे, उस समय कम से कम नई फसल के खलिहान में आने के पहले यदि जो कानून अभी मौजूद है उस के तहत कुछ कार्यवाही की जाती तो आज यह नीबट नहीं आती। उदाहरण के तौर पर मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर नई फसल आने के पहले इस वर्ष गेहूँ, ज्वार और बाजरा के भाव सरकार नियत कर देती तो व्यापारी लोग भी ज्यादा अनाज न खरीदते। कंजूमर्मे भले ही इस भाव में खरीद लेते लेकिन कोई व्यापारी जो माल का स्टॉक रखना है, वह इतना अधिक माल खरीद कर नहीं रखना चाहता क्योंकि वह मोचते हैं कि कहीं ऐसा न हो कि उन चीजों के भाव ज्यादा बढ़ जायें और उन्हें नुकसान हो जायें

खाद्य समस्या के सम्बन्ध में देश की जो स्थिति है जैसे हमारे मानवों की, वह यह कि वह एक बहुत बड़ी खेनरी माना जाता है खाद्य पदार्थों के बारे में। वहां इतना गल्ला पैदा होता है। लेकिन मैं निवेदन करूँ कि इस वर्ष वहाँ पर गल्ले के जो भाव हैं वह उन्नी प्रकार हैं जैसे कि शायद सन् १९४७-४८ में थे जब कि वहाँ गेहूँ में रोनी लग गई थी। उस वर्ष भाव बहुत बढ़ गया था। गेहूँ का भाव २०, २१ रु० मन तक चला गया था। लेकिन उस के बाद १९४८ में जो फसल आई, तो एक दम से उस का भाव १४ या १५ रु० मन हो गया और उस के बाद अब तक गेहूँ, ज्वार और बाजरे का भाव इतना नहीं बढ़ा जितना कि आज है। बाजरा मालवे में १४० रु० मानी अर्थात् ६ मन तक बिका,



जिस की आप कल्पना भी नहीं कर सकते हैं। ज्वार का भाव अर्थात् भी १५ और १५.६० मन है, नेहू १६ के ले कर २० ५० और २१ ६० तक है और कहीं कहीं २२ ५० मन तक बिका है। जैसे उज्जैन की मंडी में जो मालवे की सब से बड़ी मंडी है। यह मंहगाई क्यों बढ़ रही है। वहाँ अनाज की कमी नहीं है। लेकिन जैसा कि मैं ने अपने बजट भाषण में भी कहा था, भूवमेट कंट्रोल लागू न करने की वजह से ये भाव बढ़ रहे हैं। हमारे यहाँ में तमाम गल्ला बम्बई प्रान्त को जा रहा है। मैं ने खुद देखा है कि अगर व्यापारियों को दो चार दिन भी बैंगन नहीं मिलने तो गल्ले का भाव हमारे यहाँ रुपया आठ आना मन कम हो जाता है लेकिन जैसे ही उन को बैंगन मिलने लगने हैं गल्ले का भाव फिर बढ़ जाता है। तो वहाँ से गल्ला बाहर जा रहा है। व्यापारी भेज रहा है क्योंकि उस को मुनाफा होता है। अगर आज मालवे में अनाज की कमी होनी है तो आप को वहाँ फेयर प्राइस शाप्स खोलनी पड़नी हैं खाद्य मंत्री जी को मालूम है कि अर्थात् जब उन्होंने ने आर्डर दे दिया था कि फेयर प्राइस शाप्स को गल्ला न दिया जाय तो हमारे यहाँ बड़ी बेचैनी पैदा हो गई थी क्योंकि वहाँ का गल्ला तो बाहर जा रहा है। इस के अलावा हमारे यहाँ कुम्भ का मेला भी था जिस का वजह में लाखों यात्री आये हुए थे। इस कारण हमारे सामने बड़ी भारी समस्या पैदा हो गई थी लेकिन मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ मंत्री जी को कि उन्होंने हमारी समस्या को हल करने में सहायता दी और फिर से फेयर प्राइस शाप्स पर गल्ला चालू कर दिया।

16hrs.

कंट्रोल के आखिरी स्टेज में भूवमेट कंट्रोल कर दिया गया था जिस के कारण एक रीजन का गल्ला दूसरे रीजन में बिना परमिट के नहीं जा सकता था और अगर उस रीजन में सरप्लस होता था तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट या सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट खरीद लेती थी।

मैं समझता हूँ कि इस समय भी सरकार को उम्मी प्रकार का भूवमेट कंट्रोल लगाना होगा नहीं तो स्थिति बहुत ज्यादा खराब हो जायेगी। आजकल हो यह रहा है कि जहाँ गल्ला पैदा होता है और जहाँ गल्ले को कमी नहीं है वहाँ से तो गल्ला बाहर जा रहा है इसलिये वहाँ मंहगा हो जाता है और जब वहाँ गल्ले की कमी होनी है तो बाहर का गल्ला वहाँ भेजा जाता है। इस में एक तरफ तो उपभोक्ताओं को तकलीफ होती है दूसरे यानायात व्यवस्था पर भी अनावश्यक भार पड़ता है। इस प्रकार हमारी खाद्य समस्या हल नहीं हो सकती बल्कि और जटिल हो जाती है। इस तरह का कंट्रोल और लागू कर दिया जाय तो हमारी खाद्य समस्या हल हो सकती है और कीमते भी नीचे आ सकती हैं।

दूसरी बात में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब नई फसल आने की हो तो गल्ले का अधिकतम भाव निश्चित कर देना चाहिए और व्यापारियों को इस बात का नोटिस होना चाहिये कि वे इस में ज्यादा भाव पर न खरीदें। गवर्नमेंट उम्मी भाव पर स्टॉकिस्ट्स में गल्ला ले सकती है। यदि नोटिस देने पर भी कोई व्यापारी ज्यादा दाम पर गल्ला खरीद ले तो यह उस की अपनी जिम्मेदारी होगी। यदि सरकार इस प्रकार कीमत निश्चित कर दे तो उस का असर यह होगा कि कीमत ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ सकेगी।

मैं एक निवेदन और करना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि अगर आप ने किसी व्यापारी से उस का स्टॉक ले भी लिया तो इस से हमारी खाद्य समस्या हल नहीं होगी। और ऐसा करने में बहुत कठिनाइयाँ भी सरकार के सामने आयेगी क्योंकि जैसा कि कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा है अलग अलग जिले में बल्कि अलग अलग गावों में गल्ले के भाव अलग अलग होंगे। अगर, सब से एक ही भाव में गल्ला लिया गया तो लोगो को तकलीफ हो सकती है। यह ठीक है कि सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट इस काम के लिये अफसर नियत करेगी लेकिन उस को भी

## [श्री राबेसाल व्यास]

वही तहसीलदार और कमक्टर इस काम के लिये नियत करने होंगे। इस तरह की कार्यवाही जम की जाती है तब यह होता है कि कुछ को तो पकड़ लिया जाता है और कुछ को छोड़ दिया जाता है और इस तरह से इस में करप्शन की काफी गुंजाइश रहती है। लेकिन फिर भी जब कभी स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये इस तरह की कार्यवाही की जाती है तो इस से लोग बहुत रुष्ट हो जाते हैं।

बड़े दुल के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि दस साल तक इतना परिश्रम करने के बाद और भरबो रुपये का भनाज बाहर से मगाने से खर्च करने के बाद जिस के कारण हमारा तमाम स्टॉक बैलेंस समाप्त हो गया, हम अपनी लाघ समस्या को हल नहीं कर पाये हैं। एक भरब से ज्यादा रुपया तो हम ने जहाजों के किराये का दे दिया। अब समय आ गया है कि हम गम्भीरता में सोचें कि इस का क्या इलाज होना चाहिये इनने बड़े देश में जहा प्रति वर्ष ५२ लाख जन मर्या बढ जाती है हम को ऐसे उपाय काम में लाने चाहिय जिस में यह समस्या जल्दी हल हो सके।

अभी कुछ मित्रों ने कहा, मिहासन मिह जी ने भी कहा, कि किसानों को कर्ज वगैरह काफी देना चाहिये। यह ठीक है। उस से लाभ तो होगा। लेकिन एक बीज तो सरकार को बहुत जल्दी ही लागू करनी चाहिये। यह सुझाव मैं अपने अनुभव के आधार पर दे रहा हूँ। कई जगह भोले पड़ गये हैं और फसल बिल्कुल नष्ट हो गई है कई जगह बाढ़ आई है और उस के कारण फसल बिल्कुल नष्ट हो गयी है। अब बारिश जून से शुरू होने वाली है। यदि बारिश शुरू होने से पहले ऐसे क्षेत्रों में किसानों को बीज मिल जाये तो उन की भगनी फसल बहुत अच्छी हो सकती है और इस से देश की लाघ समस्या के हल होने में बहुत सहायता मिल सकती है। आज जैसी स्थिति इन क्षेत्रों के किसानों की है उस को देखते हुए यह धाधा नहीं की जा सकती है कि वे बीज

सरीब लेने की स्थिति में हैं। अगर सरकार उन के लिये सधान पर बीज मुहय्या कर दे तो किसान उस को खुशी से ले लेगा। इस काम में कोई नुकसान होने का सवाल नहीं है। उस को जितना बीज दिया जायेगा उस का सबाबा वह फसल होने पर सरकार को वापस दे देगा। इस में से धाधा राज्य सरकार के और धाधा सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट के। मध्य भारत में जो कि एक छोटा सा प्रदेश था, जब गेहूँ को रौली सब गई थी तो किसानों को एक करोड़ रुपये का बीज सवाई पर दिया गया था। अब तो मध्य प्रदेश एक बड़ा राज्य है। यहा तो और भी ज्यादा बीज की आवश्यकता होगी। यदि गेहूँ बोने के समय किमान के पास गल्ला बही होगा तो वह नहीं बो सकेगा। उबार के लिये इतना बीज नहीं चाहिये। यह जो २५ करोड़ रुपया सब, मंडी के लिये रखा गया है इस का इस प्रकार उपयोग किया जाये तो बहुत लाभ हो सकता है।

जहा आप ने फयर प्राइस गारंटी खोली है वहा भी व्यापारी बहुत गोलमाल कर लेते हैं। मेरा अनुभव है कि एक जगह फेयर प्राइस ग्राप पर साठे १४ रुपये मन गल्ला बेचा जा रहा था लेकिन उनी के यहा से दूसरा व्यापारी ले कर १८ और १९ रुपये बेच रहा था। व्यापारी लोग आपस में मिल जाते हैं। और इस तरह में नाजायज लाभ उठाते हैं। आज कल कोई राशन कार्ड तो होता नहीं, वे चाहे जिस के नाम लिख कर अपने साथी को गल्ला बेच देते हैं जो कि साठ १४ रुपये मन के गल्ले को १८ और १९ ६० मन बेचता है। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि यह २५ करोड़ रुपया अगर एक भरब या दो भरब किसानों को बीज बाटने में लगा दिया जाये और इस बात की निगरानी की जाये कि जो रुपया जिस काम के लिये दिया जाता है उसी काम के लिये खर्च हो, इस के लिये जिले जिले में कमेटीया बनायी जाये, तो हमारी लाघ समस्या बहुत जल्दी सुधर सकती है। किसानों को बीज देना चाहिये बीज के लिये रुपया नहीं देना चाहिये।

कई जगह ऐसा होता है कि गल्ला खूब ही जाता है तो बहुत सस्ता हो जाता है और किसानों को नुकसान उठा कर बेचना पड़ता पड़ता है। दो साल पहले हमारे यहाँ मक्का इतनी ही मयी कि रुपये की १६ सेर से २० सेर तक बिकी। फिर भी कोई खरीदने वाला नहीं था। ऐसे मौकों पर सरकार को खरीदने के लिये तैयार रहना चाहिये। सरकार ने कुछ जगह खरीद लेक़िन हम से किसानों को बहुत कम लाभ हुआ उन को अपना गल्ला बहुत सस्ता बेचना पड़ा, अगर सरकार किसानों का गल्ला ठीक मूल्य पर खरीदने को तैयार हो जाये तो इस से उन को बहुत इसटिव मिलेगा और उन की हिम्मत पस्त नहीं होगी और वे देश को काफी गल्ला दे सकेंगे और देश की खाद्य समस्या हल हो सकेगी।

**Ch. Ranbir Singh (Rohtak)** Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir ...

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Not that one begins to speak, I must necessarily call him. My difficulty is that the time-limit that we placed has already expired I intend calling upon the Minister to reply, as most of the points have also been covered, but I may assure hon Members particularly on my left who have not spoken, and on the right as well, that I will give them time. Either the House might revise its allocation or may permit me to proceed on with the programme which has been laid by the House itself. If the House wants to revise that allocation, and wants to take another half an hour or an hour on this general discussion, I have no objection. Then, very little time will be left for the clauses I am in the hands of the House. As it likes we can proceed.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** So far as the House is concerned it appears the House is of the view that we must proceed with the discussion in regard to this Bill. As a matter of fact, when the House is in your hands and when you and the House both agree, there is no point

in not doing the thing the House desires.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are other limitations also. I am told this Bill we must finish and send on to the other House before 6 O' Clock.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I was talking about the resolution. About the Bill, we must finish it today. So far as the non-official business is concerned, it lies with you and the House. The House has got full say in the matter.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House has got full say. But I do not know what the reaction of the mover of the resolution is, whether he is prepared to continue in the next session. Now, prorogation would not finish that resolution, it may be continued in the next session.

**Shri Warrior (Trichur)** May I make a submission? It all depends on the House and on you, because at the fag end of this Session, if there is going to be a thinned House, there will be no purpose served. So, I for one, am prepared to agree to your suggestion and continue this in the next session.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I assure the hon Member that all hon Members would be grateful to him for this attitude of his.

I hope **Shri S C Samanta** also would take the same line.

**Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk)** Yes.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** There are two points involved. The first is the overall limit, this Bill has to be transmitted to the other House before six o' clock. The other is the question of allocation of the time within that limit. So far as that is concerned, I am perfectly in the hands of the House, and the House can decide in any way it likes.

But I would submit that some of the amendments draw pointed attention to certain aspects of the Bill, and perhaps, it may be more useful to concentrate the attention of the

[Shri A. P. Jain]

House on those particular aspects. But, at any rate, that lies with the House and you as to how to allocate the time within that limit.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In that case, I would suggest that we may now proceed with this Bill. I shall call upon the Minister to reply now. Then, we shall take up the clauses. And I shall try to accommodate at that time those hon. Members who have not been able to speak so far.

Shri A. P. Jain: I am glad that by and large there is a big volume of support for this Bill, except that there might be a doubting Thomas here and there.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): The doubting Thomas is on your side.

Shri Mohamed Imam: What does the term 'doubting Thomas' actually mean?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That will be clear if the hon. Member has patience to hear.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I was saying that the doubting Thomas is on their side.

The Deputy-Minister of Food (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Most of them are in Kerala.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should we raise that controversy now?

Shri A. P. Jain: A large number of issues have been raised, and during the short time at my disposal, it will not be possible for me to cover the whole ground. I can assure hon. Members that I shall take note of all the arguments that have been advanced here.

Nevertheless, I propose to deal with some of the major points that have been raised. To begin with, some hon. Members have said that this Bill is not a solution or a complete solution of the food situation as it is today. I have not claimed that virtue for this Bill. This is a very limited measure. Maybe, I may have to bring

forward a more comprehensive measure some time later. In fact, I am going to make a comprehensive survey of all the laws which vest Government with one or another kind of power, and if it is found that for the purpose of the proper administration of the food distribution, any more powers are necessary, or any modifications of the existing powers are necessary, I shall not hesitate to bring forward another measure, and perhaps a little more comprehensive measure, before the House.

I am firmly of the opinion that the distributive machinery has to be controlled. This does not mean that I favour an overall control or rationing. I am completely opposed to it, and I shall try to resist it with all the strength at my command.

I have been accused of complacency by Shri Bharucha and Shri Sinhasan Singh. They have said that in my statement, I have tried to bypass the question of high prices. I shall only read out a few sentences from my statement. I said at that time:

"In spite of the record rice crop and the improvement in the total production of cereals this year, as compared to the last year, the prices continue to be generally higher this year than last year. It is natural for the consumer, therefore, to complain of these high prices."

Certainly, that is not complacency or overlooking the problem. All that I pleaded at that time was that the problem of high prices should be viewed in the correct perspective. That is all that I would like to say on that point.

Shri S. A. Dange said that he had some doubts as to how the average prices would be worked out. He referred to the price indices for rice. Actually, if the scheme of the Bill is examined, it will be found that the prices are to be prescribed for the localities. India is a vast country

with a variety of conditions, and, therefore, the prices vary from one locality to another, and it will not do to apply the rule of thumb. Therefore, the special conditions of each locality will be taken into account.

Another objection that is being raised is that instead of procuring the foodgrains at reasonable prices, we shall be subsidising the hoarder. I have got a chart of the prices which have prevailed from the 28th February, up to date at different times. I shall cite only a few of these figures, which will give the House an idea as to how the average prices are going to be worked out.

For instance, take the case of Kakinada, a fairly good centre of rice trade in Andhra Pradesh. On the 28th February, the price there was Rs 18-14-0, on the 13th March, it went up to Rs 19, and it continued at Rs 19 for some time, and then it went up on 27th May, 1957 to 21-4-0. Now it is not a difficult thing to work out the average of these prices.

Similarly take another place like Nizamabad. The price of Akulu type of rice has gone up from Rs 18-1-0 to Rs 20-6-0 during the same period. In Bombay, the price of the Bezvada type of rice has gone up from Rs 20-1-0 on 28th February, 1957, to Rs 22-11-0 on 28th May, 1957. Similarly, in the case of the other types of rice the prices have gone up. In the case of the Gurumutia type of rice, it has gone up from Rs 17-8-0 to Rs 20-14-0. This story repeats itself practically in all the localities. Therefore, the prices will have to be worked out on the basis of the prevailing prices during the period of three months preceding the notification, and thus the average will be worked out.

The question then arises to why I have selected a period of three months and not a longer period. I have got the curve of rise of prices here before me. There is always a certain amount of rise in the prices, during the period after the harvest from the curve, I find that the major

rise in the price has taken place from the end of February up to date. About the end of February, the price index was 96 as compared to 119 in March, 1953. It has gone up to 105 in the second week of May.

Hon Members are aware that the stocks are generally purchased and built after the harvest. The harvest season of rice was in January, 1957. After that, it took some time to build the stocks, and I think, therefore, the period of three months has a good relevance to the date of the notification.

The House will remember that this is a measure of emergency, and the emergency must have relation to the conditions prevailing at the time of the emergency. Therefore I believe that the period of three months preceding the date of the notification is a fairly long period, and it is equitable both to the consumer as also to the stockist.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh** Wheat prices have not been given.

**Shri A P Jain** Again a question has been raised as to why this notification will be for a period of three months only. As I said, this is an extraordinary measure. We are taking extraordinary powers, some powers which are beyond normal powers under this amendment. This provision of three months only emphasises the aspect of emergency. If after three months, it is necessary to continue it we will issue another notification.

**Shri Easwara Iyer** (Trivandrum) On a point of clarification May I ask whether reissue of the notification is contemplated, because as I see it, no power is conferred for reissuing the notification?

**Shri A P Jain** It is both legally possible and we intend to do it if conditions so necessitate.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta** (Calcutta-East) Introduce an amendment to that effect.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** How is it legally possible?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Shri M. R. Masani objected to the exclusion of the power of the civil court. Now, I am not fond of excluding the power of the civil courts. I do not like it. My hon friend, Shri Tayabji, has given a very cogent and befitting reply to this point. I will only add to the arguments. Finality has been given to the average market rate determined by the Officer, and to no other thing. Why have we done it? A reference to section 3(2)(f) would show that the Government have the power to order any essential commodity to be sold, the whole or a specified part of the stock may be sold to such person or class of persons as may be specified. This clause vests the Government with the power to order the stockist to sell to a particular person. For instance, I can order the big stockist to sell to the fair price shop at a certain rate and in certain quantities. This immediate supply to the fair price shops is meant to be passed on to the consumer immediately. If there is no finality about the price, how is the fair price shop-owner to sell to the consumer? It will lead to innumerable difficulties. After all, we propose to lay down certain rules and regulations and so long as the officer works according to those rules and regulations, the matter will not be justiciable. But if he does not observe those rules and regulations, other things will prevail. Therefore, I think that both from the administrative point of view as also from the point of view of the interest of the public at large, it is necessary that this provision should be retained.

**Shri V. Raju and Dr. Krishnaswami** suggested some sort of levy from the farmer. Now, it has been the definite and well-established policy of the Government that we must vest the farmer with greater financial resources so that he may not be compelled to make distress sales at the time of the harvest. I am glad that that

scheme is fructifying. The law which this House passed sometime ago for establishing warehouses and for providing finances for marketing is now in operation. Things have made some progress, and as a result of the larger advances that have been made to the farmer, the rise in the prices between November 1956 and May 1957 has not been so high as it was last year. That is a welcome feature. It has disturbed the market.

So while I would not like that the farmer should be compelled to make distress sales at the time of the harvest, I would, at the same time, like that there should be a steady flow of commodities, particularly foodgrains, in the market. Market channels should not be dried up. None the less, our intention is to apply this law only to substantial stockists. We are not in a position to lay down any limits with regard to the stock. We are collecting some figures. But I can assure the House that it is none of our intention to touch the retail trader, it is none of our intention to effect procurement under this law from the farmer, nor do we want to touch the small stockist. It is only the big stockist who is disturbing the market who is creating artificial scarcity conditions by hoarding and who is raising the prices, that we propose to touch, and we propose to touch this class of people with all effectiveness. So I think the proposal to have some sort of compulsory levy is not a good proposal.

**Shri Mohamed Imam** appears to be opposed to this Bill. He thinks that it will disturb the market. In a way, it is meant to be a limitation on the free market. But what are we to do when the free market is misbehaving, when the free market wants to do profiteering at the cost of society? To the extent that it is necessary, we have got to control the free market.

He has suggested that the Bill may be circulated for eliciting public opinion. I do not see any reason for it. After all, what are we doing

under the Bill? We are taking the power to issue a notification which vests Government with powers somewhat different from those under the ordinary law today. That is, instead of paying the price prevailing on the date of acquisition, Government will have the power to pay the price on the basis of the average that has prevailed during the previous three months.

In applying this law to the States, we will certainly consult the State Governments. The first notification we have will give us an enabling power. But what stock to acquire, where to acquire, whether to acquire in a particular State and in what quantities, all these will have to be decided later. After all, the Government have also the power to acquire the stock at the prevailing rate. The only difference here is that the stocks will be acquired at the price based on the average of the prices prevailing during the preceding three months. So that does not make any substantial difference. If in any State, conditions do not warrant the application of this law, we will certainly not apply it there.

Another question has been asked, as to what has been the effect of the limitation of advances by the Reserve Bank. It has certainly produced some effect. But one single action on the part of the Reserve Bank or of Government will not produce the full effect. Even the aggregate of all the actions taken by Government is not producing sufficient effect.

I do not say that this law is going to be the final solution. It is going to do something that will be helpful in arresting the upward trend in prices. That will discourage hoarding tendencies. It has to be viewed in a limited sense. It is not the final solution. But it is going to help a final solution, as one of the effective measures.

I believe I have dealt with the major points raised. If any further points come up during the course of the subsequent discussion, I will deal

with them at that stage.

**Shri M. D. Mathur (Nagpur):** May I ask for a clarification? Suppose prices are higher in Rajasthan, but there is no hoarding there. Would Government ask some hoarder in the Punjab to go and sell foodgrains at the average rate in Rajasthan under this legislation? Are Government empowered to do that? I want this clarification because this Act implies two things, rise in prices and hoarding. There is rise in prices in Rajasthan and there is no hoarding in the locality. Could you ask the hoarder in Punjab to go and sell at the average rate in Rajasthan? Will this meet that situation or not?

**Shri A. F. Isala:** Some gentlemen are endowed with a little too much of imagination and too much of intellect. I do not want to indulge in mental exercise.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We will have further clarifications during the clause by clause discussion. I am going to put this consideration motion to the vote of the House. Would Shri Mohamed Imam like me to put his amendment to the vote or does he wish to withdraw?

**Shri Mohamed Imam:** Not pressing Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Has the hon. Member leave to withdraw it?

The amendment was, by leave withdrawn.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

**Clause 2—(Amendment of Section 3)**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are a number of amendments. May I know whether the hon. Members are keen to move all or any of them? No. 7 Shri Tyabji; is he moving it?

**Shri Tyabji:** No, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No. 20, Shri Kamble.

**Shri B. C. Kamble (Kopergaon):** I am not moving any of my amendments, Sir.

**Shri Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam):** I am moving No. 8, Sir.

**Shri Ghanshyam Lal (Zalawad):** I am moving Nos. 22 and 24.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** I am moving Nos. 35, 36 and 37.

**Shri Bharucha:** I do not desire to move Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I desire to move all my amendments, Nos. 30, 31, 32 and 34.

**Shri Mahanty:** I move No. 9, Sir.

**Shri Easwara Iyer:** I move No. 10, and 13; also 15

**Shri Goray (Poona):** I am moving No. 11.

**Shri Mohiuddin:** I am moving No. 4

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** I am moving No. 12, and No. 14

**Shri M. R. Masani:** I am moving No. 5

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** I am moving 16.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, all these amendments, Nos. 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, 24, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, and 37 may be moved by the hon. Members

**Shri K. B. Menon (Badagra):** Sir, my name was not called; amendment No. 19

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I did not call because it is inadmissible

**Shri Mohiuddin:** I beg to move  
Page 2, line 13—

for "Three" substitute "twelve"

**Shri M. R. Masani:** I beg to move:  
Page 2, line 20—

omit " and the average market rate so determined shall be final

and shall not be called in question in any court".

**Shri Pattabhi Raman:** I beg to move:

Page 1, line 9—

after "hoarding" insert:

"by and dealer"

**Shri Mahanty:** I beg to move:

Page 2—

for lines 11 to 14 substitute

"(c) where neither clause (a) nor clause (b) applies, the price fixed by the Government from time to time"

**Shri Easwara Iyer:** I beg to move:

Page 2—

for lines 13 and 14, substitute:

"rate prevailing in the locality from January, 1956 to December, 1956 or the market rate prevailing in the locality at the date of the sale whichever is lowest"

**Shri Goray:** I beg to move:

Page 2, line 13—

for "during the period of three months immediately preceding the date of the notification" substitute:

"in the months in which the Kharif and Rabi crops have been harvested, immediately preceding the date of the notification"

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** I beg to move.

Page 2, line 14—

add at the end.

"or the average price of the months of October, November and December of 1956, whichever is lower."

**Shri Easwara Iyer:** I beg to move:

Page 2—

for line 19, substitute:

"which published figures by the State Government are available in



respect of that locality or that State"

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** I beg to move

(11) Page 2, line 19—

after "publisher figure" insert:

"of the Central or State Governments as"

**Shri Easwara Iyer:** I beg to move

Page 2, line 20—

omit "or of a neighbouring locality"

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** I beg to move

Page 2—

after line 22, add

"Provided that at places where there are no prices published by the Government, the prices prevailing as stated by the Government of the State shall prevail"

**Shri Ghanshyam Lal:** I beg to move

(1) Page 2—

omit lines 6 to 8

(11) Page 2, line 14—

add at the end "or prevailing market rate whichever is less"

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I beg to move

(I) Page 2—

(1) omit lines 6 to 10, and

(11) line 11—

omit "where neither clause (a) nor clause (b) applies"

(II) Page 2—

for lines 6 to 14 substitute.

"the price prevailing in the market of the locality concerned until the controlled rate for the locality concerned is fixed by the Government and when it is fixed at the controlled rate"

(III) Page 2—

for lines 15 to 22 substitute

"(iv) The price prevailing in the market in the locality concerned mentioned in the preceding sub-clause shall be deemed to be the price determined by an officer of the Government having among other matters referred to the following,

(a) the cost of acquisition of the stock of foodstuffs directed to be sold including the cost of transport of any of such foodstuff from the place of production and reasonable profit on the same,

(b) the rates prevailing in the market during the period of two months immediately preceding the date of the notification, and approved by the Government such price shall not be called in question in any court

(v) The issue of any such notification as is mentioned in the preceding sub-clause shall in no way derogate from the right or duty of the Government arranging the sale of foodstuffs to any person or class of persons at subsidized rates by way of relief"

(IV) Page 2—

after line 22 add

(3B) This Act shall not apply to any person who owns a stock of less than 40 tons"

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** I beg to move

(1) Page 1, lines 12 and 13—

omit "in the locality in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2)"

(11) Page 1, line 17—

omit "not exceeding three months"

(111) Page 2—

for lines 1 to 22 substitute

"(111) Where such notification has been issued the price will be fixed by an officer authorised by the Government which shall be the lowest price recorded

[Shri Sinhasan Singh]

during six months before the notification."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All these amendments are new before the House

**Shri Mohiuddin:** Sir, I have moved that a period of 12 months may be substituted for a period of 3 months in the Bill for the purpose of averaging the price. The hon Minister has given some reasons for selecting the period of 3 months. The main reason, according to him, is that the stock-piling begins after the harvest and rice, especially in the South, is harvested in January, and the period of 3 months after January, February, March and April would be very suitable. Of course, rice is harvested in January but it is also harvested in April, wheat is harvested in the end of February or March in the south and in April in the north. Taking all the factors into consideration, the prices that are prevailing during the last 3 months have in them a very heavy element of speculation. The foodgrain prices have gone up by 27 per cent last year and that is a very heavy rise, in spite of the fact, according to the statement laid by the hon Minister on the Table, production has gone up considerably. Therefore, it is obvious that the prices prevailing during the last 3 or 4 months carry in them a very heavy element of speculation and we will, while fixing the period of 3 months for averaging, be paying to the hoarders a price for easy speculation and this will, I think, defeat the purpose of the Bill itself.

Every part of the House desires that the prices of foodgrains should be brought down. The price of foodgrains should go down by at least 10 or 15 per cent, so that, as the other articles like excised articles may go up, the cost of living comes down a little or at least does not go up. The 3 months' averaging will not bring down the prices of foodgrains and I suggest—and hope that the hon Minister will agree to the amendment that

the averaging period should be 12 months. Just as the hon. Minister quoted the prices for various places and showed that there is no difficulty in averaging for three months, there will be no difficulty in averaging for 12 months. If you take the average for 12 months, it will act as a deterrent for the hoarders.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Whenever any hon Member wants to talk with another hon Member, he may sit near him and talk to him. He should not stand in the passage.

**Shri Mohiuddin:** As the hon Minister said, if this Bill is only for the purpose of giving a warning to the hoarders, it has to carry an effective warning. Therefore, I suggest that the period of three months may be substituted by a period of twelve months.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** I am not convinced by the arguments of the hon Minister about his three months' formula. Generally speaking, I welcome this measure. But I have to state that our Minister is a bit late. Already hoarders and speculators have benefited themselves during these three or four months. Anyway, it is very good that at last our Minister has come forward with this proposal. But from our experience I wish to point out that generally the Government comes forward with a notification only when the situation has become very bad. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated:

"In view of the present high level of prices, it is considered necessary, in order to discourage hoarding and to prevent undue profiteering by the traders, to alter this provision."

For the last four or five months the prices were rising. I wish to point out that the price of cereals in January 1957 showed 23 per cent increase with the corresponding period of 1956. There was a rise of 25 per cent with regard to rice, 10 per cent with regard

to wheat, 27 per cent. with regard to jowar and 57 per cent. with regard to bajra. Now actually the prices have gone up much higher. We all know that. The situation is much more serious. The people were clamouring for the last four-five months. We are meeting here from the second week of this month but the Government has come forward with this measure only now. Already hoarders have profited themselves. Generally this will be the case, that is my fear. As a matter of fact, even Ministers were going about saying that the situation is not alarming. I do not know whether it is in place now to mention a speech made by the hon. Deputy Minister, Mr. Krishnappa. I brought that to the notice of the Food Minister some days ago. Shri Krishnappa was giving a statement to the press from Hyderabad. I remember it was on the 8th of May. He stated that the food situation in Kerala was quite comfortable when actually there was a rise in prices by 50 per cent.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Shall I make the position clear since I am referred to? It is true that on the 8th of May I made a statement of the general food situation in the country wherein I made a mention about the situation in Kerala also. But those were the very words used by the communist Food Minister Mr. George immediately after he assumed office. He made a statement from Trivandrum. Mr. K. C. George in his statement said that the food situation in Kerala is quite comfortable. I used the same words from Hyderabad and I am prepared to show it from all papers of the South, that is, Mr. K. C. George's statement that the food situation in Kerala is quite comfortable. Why should I not repeat what the communist Food Minister has stated from Kerala. After all it is he who made the statement.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That was the statement of the State Minister.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It was the State Minister who made that statement first. (Interruption).

Shri Kumaran (Chirayin Kil). I challenge it.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Those were not his words.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The discussion is not on this question.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: I am sorry I cannot accept the statement of the hon. Deputy Minister. It is true that the State Minister made a statement that the position is not bad. But he did not use the expression "quite comfortable".

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: What did he say then? I am prepared to produce the papers to prove it. (Interruption)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There should be no interruption when one hon. Member is speaking.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: It is true that he issued a statement that there is nothing to be worried about the position. But after that, one or two weeks before Shri Krishnappa's statement the Food Minister came out with another statement—not this statement which our hon. Deputy Minister has referred to—that the situation is worsening. Perhaps our Deputy Minister, because he was touring the whole country, could not go through that statement, that is, the second statement. That is the real position. And my request is that he should be up to date because he is a Minister.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The point is that the hon. Minister in coming to the conclusion has relied upon the statement of the State Minister.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I know my stock position in Kerala. I have got stocks in five places, in Calicut, Quilon, Trivandrum and Alleppey and these stocks can suffice for 3-4 months. I can give the figures. What Mr. George said from Trivandrum was ....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Deputy Minister will resume his seat.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: My point is that generally our authorities and government—I am not finding fault

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

with them—act very slowly When they issue a notification according to this Act, it will take much time By that time—the three months' period will be a period of high prices That is the difficulty So there should be a change in that clause I am prepared to accommodate myself with any of the reasonable amendments submitted here by many hon Members My amendment says

at page 2, line 14, add at the end "or the average price of the months October, November, December of 1956, whichever is lower"

I have made it clear that I am prepared to change my position The only thing is that the consumers should be benefited by this provision

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why would he change? The hon Member has moved his amendment and can press for its acceptance

Shri Vasudevan Nair: I have moved my amendment I was just making the position clear

Now I do not want to dilate on many other points that are not mentioned in my amendment But if you will permit me I want to point out that a very huge sum is being advanced by the bank on food grains I just want to bring it to the notice of the House

I am reading from the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin March 1957, page 229.

"Advances against paddy and rice particularly fell sharply to Rs 4.3 crores at the end of October 1956, as against 3.8 crores in October, 1955 In order to assist the seasonal movement of the new paddy crop, the Bank's directive issued in May 1956 was withdrawn in November 1956 In the subsequent two months, advances against paddy and rice rose sharply to Rs 16.1 crores..."

That is the most important sentence.

"Although the production of rice in the current year was estimated higher by about 4 per cent

the prices did not show the usual seasonal fall in the marketing period Advances against paddy and rice in Andhra Pradesh rose from Rs 2.1 crores on November 30, 1956 to Rs 5.5 crores on January 25, 1957 while in Madhya Pradesh, another surplus area for rice, advances rose from Rs 0.4 crores to Rs 2.9 crores or by Rs 2.5 crores during the two months

This is a very alarming situation and I must say that our Government did not foresee the crisis that was coming and take steps to check the rise in price I hope the Minister will give consideration to our proposals at least at this late hour

Shri Easwara Iyer. Sir, my amendment No. 10 I am not going to speak on the general aspect of the Bill My amendment relates to the fixing of the rate Under the Essential Commodities Act itself, the Central Government has got power to requisition stock from the stockists and under this amending Bill, Government seeks to regulate the price that is to be paid Under the Act, as it stands, it must pay the stockist the prevailing market rate which, according to the Government, is shooting high In order to enable the Government to acquire stocks by payment of a fair price, this amendment is brought forward with the idea that it will take into consideration the prevailing rates as on the date of the notification and three months prior to that date It will take the average and then pay him a reasonable price Under the scheme of the amending Bill, it is provided that the Government should be enabled to issue a notification and the date depends upon the discretion of the Government It may come at any time If the Government thinks that it is necessary tomorrow, it may come tomorrow, or, it may come a few months later The price to be paid is the average price of the three months immediately prior to the date of the notification.

There are certain difficulties regarding the fixation of these prices. If the notification is issued today, probably there may not be much difficulty. Suppose the notification is issued, as the hon. Minister has said, after taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case and after a high-power committee has gone into the matter.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** To cut short the argument, the notification is going to be issued within a few days.

**Shri Easwara Iyer:** Otherwise, there is no need for pushing through this enactment. But, then there is a little more difficulty then. Suppose the notification is issued within a few days. Unless the hon. Minister is certain that everything will get itself adjusted within the duration of three months, he should re-issue a notification. The Act does not contemplate the reissue of the notification. If he had said "...by issue of a notification from time to time..." the matter would have been very clear. I do not want to be too technical. But, we are legislating and so far as the amending Bill is concerned, my respectful submission is that it has got all the defects of a hasty legislation.

In fixing the rates, there is yet another difficulty. Probably, when the notification is issued, for aught we know, the prices may shoot up double the market rate. It may be purely imaginary or I may be only speculating. Yet, the possibility cannot be ruled out. It may happen that with respect to certain foodstuffs, even within a few days, the prices may go up. In that case, if you take the average, it will be higher. I have said that we must have a fixed period. In my amendment, I say that the prices prevailing from January 1956 to December 1956 may be taken as the average or the market rate, whichever is lowest. Supposing the average is perchance higher than prevailing market rate, the hon. Minister should have power to charge the lower price. That is the price conducive to the interest of the public.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Why issue any notification at all if the prices have come down?

**Shri Easwara Iyer:** I suppose I have not made myself clear. If the price, as it stands today, is very high, a notification may issue today. Or, it may come fifteen days later. After the expiry of fifteen days, the price may even become double the existing price. We are not prepared to pay the price prevailing as on this date. If, when the price is so high, after a certain time, a notification is issued and if an average is taken, it will be a little higher than even the prevailing price as on this date. So, as a matter of abundant caution, I want this amendment. What is the difficulty in putting "whichever is lowest". There is no harm in this amendment.

There are certain verbal alterations which I have proposed. The officer may take into consideration published figures. What these 'published' figures are, has not been defined. It may be newspaper publication or it may be any unauthentic publication. I say "published figures of the State on published figures of the Gazette". I have put this by way of abundant caution. So, I commend my amendments to the hon. Minister.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Sir, I shall also be very brief. I want the House to consider my amendment which reads:

"or the average price of the months of October, November and December of 1956, whichever is lower."

There is some specific reason for the rise in prices of foodgrains and in respect of the State of Kerala it has a very peculiar significance. My hon. friend read out certain portions from the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin for March 1957. In the same paragraph, from which he quoted, you will find a very interesting passage which accounts for the rise in prices. It is stated here:

"...during the 1956 slack season from Rs. 37.4 crores on May 25, 1956 to Rs. 13.7 crores in

[Shri V P Nair.]

October A part of the decline might also be attributed to the directive issued to banks in May and September 1956 asking them to restrict advances against paddy and rice and wheat, gram, other grains and pulses respectively"

17 hrs.

So, you find that the prices were falling at a particular time, the bank restricted the advances, and in November they withdrew all the restrictions saying that for the seasonal movement of grains certain credit facilities ought to be given. You find, Sir, by the time you come to January the prices shoot up. Very elaborate arguments have also been given by the hon Minister to show that, various circumstances came into play and the prices rose. I want the hon Minister to tell us how far this advance as reported by the Reserve Bank in its bulletin has been responsible for the rise in prices in January, because here in the *Agricultural Situation in India* issued by the Economic and Statistical Adviser in the Ministry of Agriculture there is a passage and you must link both of them together. It is stated there—I am quoting from this column for February, 1957—

"The prices of cereals during January 1957 showed a rise of about 23 per cent" (that is a month after the Reserve Bank withdrew restrictions on the advances of money on paddy and rice) "as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year. During the same period, prices of rice rose by 25 per cent of wheat by 10 per cent, of Jawar by about 27 per cent and of Bajra by 57 per cent"

So, you find that at a particular time when the prices were falling the Reserve Bank gives certain advances. The advances result in an increase in the prices. In this monthly bulletin. *Agricultural Situation in India*, month after month

you find that the prices have been maintained at a very high level.

I submit to you, Sir, that there is some special significance for this matter, when I ask the House to consider whether in fixing the prices we have to take into account three months immediately preceding that date or whether we have to take into account the prices in October, November and December. It has particular reference to Kerala. Here again,—I do not want to refer to the fateful statement of the hon Deputy Minister—I would like to refer to the statement made by the hon Minister, Shri A. P. Jain, when he made a statement in this House. In respect of Kerala State he said

"In this State the rice crop this year has been normal but owing to high density of population and crop pattern, large quantities of rice and paddy are generally imported every year from Andhra and Tanjore District of Madras"

I want you to underline the word Andhra. I am not at all suggesting that the poor peasant of Andhra should not get more, but my State is one which has to import bulk of its requirements. Here if you fix the average price immediately preceding this date—that is, March, April and May—then the position boils down to this, that we, who depend upon imported rice for a good percentage of our consumption, will have to pay more, and the money which we pay will not go to the actual peasant of Andhra. My friend Shri Uddrama Raman was telling me that in his district, which is very much a surplus district in Andhra, neither during his time nor during his grandfather's time have they seen a crop like this.

I submit, when you fix up the price you have to consider these points. I can understand the solicitude of the Hon Minister for our State in giving 75,000 tons, my thanks are also due to him for that. But in fixing the price I want him to consider whether it is not more desirable, in view of the fact that the Reserve Bank bulletin itself

says that half the money advanced has been advanced for purposes of hoarding by purchasing rice and paddy from Andhra State from where we take our bulk supplies, that prices be fixed having regard to the averages for the months of October, November and December. It is well and good to say, you can go to Andhra. The hon. Minister says that the Government of Kerala have complete freedom to go to Andhra and purchase. But, how to purchase? No other State depends upon imported rice as our State does. We have a special variety of rice which alone will be tolerated there. In the circumstances I submit for the consideration of the hon. Minister whether it will not be desirable for the whole country, and in particular my State, to fix the prices having regard to the average for the months of October, November and December. I could have given him the figures but, unfortunately, the Bill came yesterday as a bolt from the blue and I could not have the usual statistics from the published records. I want the Minister to consider whether he could not accept my amendment for the reasons I have already submitted.

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farrukhabad) Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there seems to be some misunderstanding about the Bill. The Act will only come into operation when there are two conditions. The 1st condition is that there should be hoarding, and the second condition is that there should be rise in prices on account of that hoarding. When these two conditions are there, the Central Government is entitled to issue a notification. There is also a third condition that the person who is holding stocks should get a fair price. If that condition has to be fulfilled, then you can only take the average of three months and not six months or a year. Only three months can be taken; if you want to pay the hoarder a fair price. He only wanted to stock. You cannot penalise him for that. He might have got stocks honestly in the interest of trade and in his own

interest. I do not see any reason why he should be penalised for that.

The arguments so far advanced seem to indicate that the desire is to penalise the hoarder. As the time he took over stocks there was no law to prevent hoarding or preventing his trying to make a profit for himself. Therefore, for that reason my submission is that the period of three months is quite enough. The Bill is not going to be a panacea for all Bills. It has only a limited scope. It is intended for a certain purpose. Well, that purpose is severed by the Bill as it stands.

For improving the position of foodgrains and other things there are other methods. The scope of this Bill is not so comprehensive as to go to that extent. Some other laws can be framed for improving the food position. So far as this Bill is concerned, I think it is a fair measure and should be allowed to go through.

Shri Pattabhi Raman: Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish only to point out certain legal aspects of the Bill. It has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill No. 27 that

the Central Government can direct a person holding stocks of foodgrains to sell the whole or a specified part of it to any person or class of persons."

The word "hoarding" has not been defined in the Bill. In clause 2 of the proposed Bill the word "hoarding" has been used in a general way. It does not confine itself to dealers in foodstuffs. When you turn to sub-section (ii) of clause 2, you find that the scheme of the enactment is to grip persons selling foodstuffs. In the Hoarding and Profiteering Ordinance, Ordinance 35 of 1943 which was passed during the war, there is a reference to the word "dealer". In that Ordinance it is stated that

"A dealer means a person carrying on the business of selling any article whether wholesale or retail."



[Shri Pattabhi Raman]

There is also a definition in that Ordinance of the word "producer" as including a manufacturer. That Ordinance which was passed during the war, in a state of emergency, confined itself only to dealers. Clause 2 of the present Bill as it now stands will be applicable not only to dealers but also to farmers, agriculturists and others, and it will cause a lot of hardship and harassment to agriculturists and former when they are accused of hoarding even when they possess with them a reasonable quantity of foodstuff. There are many persons from Hindu joint families and farmers in rural areas who may have stocks of rice not only for seeding but also for domestic purposes.

The present Bill is an amendment of the Act 1955. In that Act, I think Act 10 of 1955, you will find that there are sub-sections (e), (f) and (j) to section (3) which give very wide powers. For example, sub-section (e) refers to prohibiting the withholding from sale of any essential commodity ordinarily kept for sale, (f) refers to requiring any person holding in stock any essential commodity to sell the whole or a specified part of the stock to such person or class of persons and in such circumstances as may be specified in the order, and (g) says "for regulating or prohibiting any class of commercial or financial transactions relating to foodstuffs."

Then, sub-clause (j) says

"for any incidental and supplementary matters—"

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All sub-clauses need not be read.

Shri Pattabhi Raman: All I say is, they can even search houses. The power for searching houses also is given. There are very wide powers given in the old Act, that is, Act 10 of 1955. Therefore, when we do not have any food rationing as such, if there is any vagueness about the word "hoarding" it may cause a lot of hardship. If that is made clear, it would be all right. I find that the approach

to the courts is barred. But then, any statement made in the House, when quoted before the courts, is rarely accepted by the courts. We are not allowed to read the proceedings of this House as explanatory to any clause. If the word "hoarding" is made clear, if any assurance is given that the word "hoarding" deals mainly with the dealers which seems to be the purpose of this Bill and does not grip the people at large when any reasonable quantities for their domestic use or for seed purposes is kept by them, it will be better.

Shri Heda (Nizamabad). I am glad that this Bill does not make a distinction between a dealer and a peasant. Much has been said about the peasant, but there is one contingency over which we should devote some thought. So far as rice is concerned, it is a rich crop, and I represent an area which is very rich in the production of rice because it is a surplus area. But there is a difference between peasants and peasants. So far as the small peasants are concerned, they have not got any capacity to hoard. Therefore, this Bill will not apply to them. It may not harass them at all. But there are peasants who do big business, owning 50 to 100 acres of irrigated land, and those lands produce quite well, and those peasants do quite well. Not only that. Some of them have got rice mills. They own rice mills also. Practically all the rice mills are owned by one big peasant or sometimes jointly by two or three peasants. Now, if these peasants simply because they happen to be peasants and they are big businessmen any they have got large areas of land at their disposal, are also given exemption from the purview of this Bill, I think it will not be good in the general interests.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: It applies to the smallest man.

Shri Heda: The smallest man has not got any grain at all. Therefore, he will not be harassed.



**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** They will seize the seeds.

**Shri Heda:** The seeds will never be seized.

I come to another point now. So far as the average price of three months is concerned, particularly in my area, I have noted one thing. I take the big peasants again. When the crop is good and when they know the trend of the market, when the trend in the market is upward, and when they know it, they hoard the grains. They do not send it to the market. Not only that. When their neighbouring poor peasant was in need was thinking to send the paddy, these big peasants purchase it, advance some money and purchase the crop and keep it to themselves.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Such a man would not be farmer.

**Shri Heda:** That is not the question. Therefore, the price for the last three months in spite of crop being good and in spite of the harvests being near, will not be normal and the prices would be higher. It was so in my place. Therefore, I join issue with my Communist friends and other friends that the average of the preceding three months would not be the normal price. It would be higher than the normal price. I hope the hon. Minister will pay heed to this aspect. If he wants to be fair to the consumer, I request him to accept the amendment of Shri Mohiuddin.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava rose—**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Does Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava like to speak?

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I want to speak.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He has already spoken. But he will be very brief now.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I shall be very brief.

**Shri Dasappa (Bangalore):** I think the Chair said that those who did not

have the opportunity to speak earlier, would be called.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I looked that side. The hon. Member was absent.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** What about me, Sir?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have called Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava.

बंकिम ठाकुर दास भार्गव . जनाब, डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मुझे भ्रफ्तोस है कि इस बिल के कुछ क्लोजेज को गौर से पढ़न के बाद मैं इस नतीजे पर पहुंचा हूं कि यह बिल, और इसके अन्दर जो प्रोजेन्ट क्लोज है वह इस किस्म का है, जिस का मतलब मैं ने अब तक ठीक नहीं समझा था। मैं जनाब की इजाजत से दो मिनट तबज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूं। जनाब मुलाहजा फरमायें कि जिस लाइट में मैं कहता हूं अगर वह दुस्त है, तो इस बिल में जब तक मिनिस्टर साहब बास तब्दीली न करें, यह मानने के काबिल नहीं होगा। जो एसेन्सल कमोडिटी ऐक्ट है, उस के पार्ट एच की तरफ मैं तबज्जह दिलाऊंगा।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It would be more beneficial if the hon. Minister is convinced.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I am just requesting the hon. Minister to give his full attention to what I shall say in these few minutes. Section 3 (2) (f) of the original Act says:

"Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), an order made thereunder may provide—

for requiring any person holding in stock any essential commodity to sell the whole or a specified part of the stock to such person or class of persons and in such circumstances as may be specified in the order;"

जनाब मुलाहजा फरमायें कि इस में स्पेसिफिक का कहीं जिक्र नहीं है, और यह हुक्म किया गया है कि ए बी सी स्पेसिफाइड पर्सन को दे सकते हैं। तुम अपने स्टॉक का

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

सारा या कुछ हिस्सा कना बख्त को बेच दो।  
अब जो नया बिल आया है, उस के अन्तर अन्तर  
२ ए एन्ड करे, तो यह बनेगा

Clause 2 of the Bill, which seeks to insert a sub-section (3A) runs as follows:

"(3A) (1) If the Central Government is of opinion that it is necessary so to do for controlling the rise in prices, or preventing the hoarding, of any foodstuff in any locality, it may, by notification in the Official Gazette, direct that notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3), the price at which the foodstuff shall be sold in the locality in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2) shall be regulated in accordance with the provisions of this sub-section."

अब जनाब मेहरबानी करना कर इस  
क्लाज ३ का मुलाहजा करनाये. जो कि इस  
का अपरेटिव सेक्शन है।

Shri A. P. Jain: May I clear the difficulty of the hon Member?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it can be done

Shri A. P. Jain: I think it will be done

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: It would be better if my hon friend, the Minister, heard me and then replied, because my real point has not been appreciated yet. If he will hear me and then replies, I shall be glad. Let him convince me, I have got an open mind. But he has not really heard the objection of mine. Kindly hear the objection.

Shri A. P. Jain: I understood his argument

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Kindly see sub-clause (iii)

"Where, after the issue of a notification under this sub-section,

any person sells foodstuff of the kind specified therein and in the locality so specified, in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2), there shall be paid to the seller as the price therefor—"

It means that if any notification is issued for rice and wheat then, in the locality for which the notification is issued, no person in that locality shall be able to sell any foodstuff except at such a price prescribed. It means also that if a person has got two maunds of grain in his house and notification has been issued in respect of say, rice, then, that person would not be able to sell it unless if it be for that price announced. So, it is not a question of the dealer alone.

I perfectly believe the hon. Minister when he says that he wants only to prevent the traders from hoarding. But the wordings in the Bill are such that every person living in the locality concerned will be punished and not the traders alone.

In the case of stocks, the Government have only to issue an order. There is no rule in this Bill that the stock will be taken from the stockists. It is not meant for that purpose. It is only meant to fix the price in the locality of that article in respect of which an order is issued, which means that every possible person in that locality will be bound by that order to sell the stuff at that price.

What is the operative section? It is this "there shall be paid to the seller as the price therefor"—Now, we know what the criminal law is. We know any contravention of this order will be punished by imprisonment for a period of three years. We have got it in the original Act—section 7.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I feel that the intention is that even if the price is not fixed, the price is to be regulated in that locality.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** In regard to every person, and not with regard to stockists alone. What is the sense of using the words any persons and not such person who held stocks and had been required under 2(f) to sell them.

A fair interpretation of this sub-clause would include every person in regard to the stockist, he gets outside the picture. As soon as an order is issued then every person in that locality is bound. That is the point at issue.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If the price is to be regulated it shall not be regulated in the locality but in respect of particular commodity.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** The stockist does not come in. No stock need be taken from the stockist or it may be taken. But if notification is issued then every person in that area shall be bound if he wants to sell on that price. It means that every cultivator whom my hon. friend is very anxious to protect will be enmeshed.

Secondly, what is the offence here? Three years' imprisonment. Whoever charges more than the price fixed will be responsible, whoever gives less may also be responsible. What is the operative part? I may tell you for your consideration that in the Essential Commodities Act, there is no provision for making any rule. The hon. Minister was saying that he will make certain rules, but in this Bill there are no provisions for making a rule.

**Shri A. F. Jain:** I never said so.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** This means that the operative part will be like this.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The original Act might have that provision.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** This is the original Act which I have in my possession. The offence is this: If a person takes out any loan and

does not pay the price then and there, he will be enmeshed because the words are

"There shall be paid the price."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. There should not be so many loud voices. The hon. Member should be allowed to proceed quietly.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** The price must be paid, if the seller does not pay he loses, if he takes a loan, he is guilty; if the purchaser pays less price, he is still guilty, if a person wants to part away with goods at less price, he will be still guilty. The words are that he should be paid a price which is given here in an order of this nature where such consequences are attached to the Act, and three years' imprisonment. I should like that an order of this nature must not be left vague, it should be sufficiently definite and should not enmesh innocent persons.

We were under the impression that my friend shall take possession of stocks at such a price. There is no provision of taking possession of stocks. Only all the persons in the area are to behave in a certain way. If the stocks are not or are taken but a notification is issued with reference to 2(f) then every person will have to pay the price mentioned in the notification. In the entire *Ilaka* the sale will take place in a certain way. Then the question that the price must be paid is not in the nature of penal offence. This must be looked into.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is there any provision in the original Act to take the stock?

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** So far as the Act of 1955 is concerned, there is no provision to make any rule. It may be that an order may be passed that a particular stock may be taken. By specifying that the stock of one person should be taken, how do we gain? All the other stockists and sellers remain untouched in that

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

contingency and no fixed price can be enforced. The entire people in the locality are bound to behave in a certain way and sell the goods. The stockists are not proceeded against if he does not obey the order and transfers his stock to other localities, only I am proceeded against—I mean the person living in the locality. A poor man like myself will be enmeshed, an innocent man like me will suffer if I do not pay the proper price which the hon. Minister fixes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Innocent, we might concede but not a poor man like the hon. Member.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: That may be so. I will not certainly remain innocent. If my interpretation is right my hon. friend will give an explanation. I am really innocent of the knowledge which he wants to impart to me. I would be happy if he would kindly convince me. To my mind, there are two orders; the General Order and the Special Order. Section 3(f) only means that the order should be personal, and specific and not general. Whereas the new amendment wants there may be a general order. Under 2(f) the order must be specific requesting the stockist to sell. Then there is a general order. As a matter of fact this is a misuse of section 2(f). I agree that we should have a provision. I appreciate the motives with which my hon. friend has brought in this Bill, but I am afraid if the words remain as they are, it will enmesh those very persons whom he wants to save. It is a confused thing. Unless and until we have got the exact words in the statute what should constitute an offence, I am afraid, it will be difficult for me to vote for this Bill.

Shri A. P. Jain: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am sure that there is no confusion in the Bill, the confusion may be elsewhere. I would refer to 3(a): "It says notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (iii), the price at which the foodstuff shall be sold in any locality."

There is a qualification to this: "In compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2), the sale must take place in pursuance of an order under clause (f) of sub-section 2 of section 3. What is that? Government gives an order requiring any person holding any stock in essential commodity to sell the whole or a part of the stock to such person or a class of persons". Unless the Government passes an order or orders the stockist to sell, this clause does not come into operation. It contains two notifications. One notification is under clause (3a) (i). The Government finds that there is hoarding or that the prices are going up. It issues a notification, and thereafter sub-clause (iii) becomes operative. But an order has to be passed under section 3 sub-section (2) clause (f). That will be the second order. What is the effect of the first notification? After the first notification has been passed, then the price has to be paid as it prevails on the date of acquisition. If the first notification has been issued then the price has to be paid at the rate which is based on the average of the prices prevailing during the preceding three months. That is the difference and that is the effect. Even in the original sub-section (3) of sub-clause (c) it is given as the price calculated at the market rates prevailing in the locality on the date of the sale. If there is no notification the price has to be paid at the rate which prevails in the locality on the date of acquisition. If there is a notification then the price has to be paid on the basis of the average of the preceding three months. That is the only difference. Otherwise, it makes no difference. Anybody can buy or sell, but if the sale takes place in pursuance of an order, under clause (f) of sub-section (2) of section 3 then that applies. Nobody is going to be harmed and nobody is going to suffer....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava said was that when this notification has been issued

then it would be binding on the ordinary poor man also ...

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Sir, It will not be

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It will regulate that price in that locality

**Shri A. P. Jain:** It will regulate the prices only in relation to the sales that are made under clause (f) sub-section (2) of section 3 "If the Central Government is of opinion that it is necessary to do so for controlling the rise in prices or preventing hoarding of any food-stuff in the locality, it may by notification in the Official Gazette, direct that notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3), the price at which the foodstuff shall be sold in the locality in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2) shall be regulated" in the following manner So, the sale has to be done in compliance with an order issued under clause (f) of section (3) (2) Otherwise it will not apply

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I have one question to ask

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let the Hon Minister finish first

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Certain questions have been raised on the point whether the hoarding can be done only by the dealers I am not prepared to accept the amendment that has been brought forward for the reason that it prescribes conditions for the issue of the notification Whether the hoarding is by the dealer or whether the hoarding is by the farmer, if the result is that it leads to a rise in price or if there is hoarding, then, Government will acquire that power As to the point against which person it is to operate will be found later on Another amendment prescribing 12 months period has no relevance with the emergency we are facing I have got the figures with me The amendment will not be helpful in the context of the prevailing emergency The price in June 1956 was 95 as compared to 100 relating to the base

1952-53 In December it went up to 101 and it came down in March to 97 and in May it again rose to 103 They are probably somewhere near about 105 That is not going to make a material difference On the other hand, prescribing a longer period will create innumerable difficulties After all, it has been pointed out by my hon friend Shri Dubey that this is a clause which empowers the Government to act under an emergency I cannot accept the amendment

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** What about the last three months of 1956?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** I don't see any virtue about the last three months of 1956 As I stated, the harvests arrive in the month of January Stocks are acquired from the end of February up till now I am going to issue a notification almost immediately and I don't think that this law is meant to punish anybody apart from regulating certain conditions

**Shri Goray:** Is the Minister prepared to accept my amendment? My Amendment is No 11

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Panditji wanted to ask a question It should be only a question

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** I want to know whether the words 'any person' occurring in clause 3 mean the stockists Or, does it mean any person in the world?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** One who has been required to comply with the order

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** If it means persons against whom the order was passed, I have no objection

**Shri A. P. Jain:** This is specified in clause (f) of sub-section (2)

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** What does the words 'any person' mean?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Any person selling foodstuffs of the kind specified therein and in the locality so specified in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2).

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Is it the stockist alone and no other person?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Hon. Minister will reply

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon** (Mukandapuram): The hon. Minister stated that the notification will issue in a few days. Before August, 1957, in the whole of the South fresh crops will be coming in. If rice stocks are to be requisitioned as per this notification, the price will be the price that exists now, that is, 103, I am asking the hon. Minister to state whether he is going to give statutory recognition to the price prevailing now to control higher prices.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What is the other question?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I would request the hon. Minister to reply to the points I have mentioned.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is not a private matter between the Minister and the hon. Member.

**Shri Ghanshyam Lal:** I am referring to clause (a) of sub-clause (iii) of page 2.

"where the price can, consistently with the controlled price of the foodstuff, if any, fixed under this section be agreed upon, the agreed price"

This presupposes that there is a controlled price. We are dealing with the hoarders and the profiteers. Does not the hon. Minister think it proper to do away with this clause? By agreement with the hoarders and the profiteers it will only lead to prices higher than the controlled prices.

Another question is with regard to sub-clause (c). We say that it is the price which is the average price of the three months immediately preceding the date of the notification. Suppose for any reason the prices recede and the prices when we procure the food-grains become lower than the average of the last three months. Suppose this thing happens.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister has already answered this point. Perhaps the Hon. Member was not present in this House at that time.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** What I want to say is this.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We are adopting an extraordinary procedure today.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** The Hon. Minister stated that he would issue a notification in a few days. I believe that there must be the notification issued with reference to the particular locality. Is he going to issue different notifications with reference to the different localities?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He may not be able to disclose it just now. I myself may not be able to disclose it just now.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The rise in prices was due primarily to the unrestricted advance which has been reported by the Reserve Bank affecting different States. What will be the position of the different States which are obliged to buy large supplies from neighbouring States? We are not worried about the price which will reach the actual cultivator. Once it is hoarded, will not the hoarder and the profiteer take away the cream of the money?

**Shri Dasappa:** I have a question.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This is the last question.

**Shri Dasappa:** If, after the notification is issued and the seller, the farmer or the agriculturist does not find the purchaser, may I know whether the Hon. Minister is going to take it himself or withdraw the notification? (interruptions)

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let us hear the Hon. Minister.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** First I shall deal with my hon. friends in the opposite benches. For the words 'prices prevailing today' I am substituting

'prices worked out on the basis of the prices prevailing during the preceding three months' The prices will be lower than the prices prevailing today. Therefore, it will not only arrest the price but it will bring down the price. So far as the other question is concerned, it is totally irrelevant because if the prices prevailing today are lower than the prices worked out on the basis of the average of the last three months, we are not going to issue a notification. There is no point of issuing it. So far as Shri Dasappa's point is concerned, if the stockists do not buy we will buy the entire quantity.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will put the amendments to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Page 2—

(1) omit lines 6 to 10 and

(u) line 11—

omit "where neither clause (a) nor clause (b) applies"

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is

Page 2—

for lines 6 to 14 substitute

"the price prevailing in the market of the locality concerned until the controlled rate for the locality concerned is fixed by the Government and when it is fixed at the controlled rate"

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is

Page 2—

for lines 15 to 22 substitute

"(iv) The price prevailing in the market in the locality concerned mentioned in the preceding sub-clause shall be deemed to be the price determined by an officer of the Government having among

other matters referred to the following,—

(a) the cost of acquisition of the stock of foodstuffs directed to be sold including the cost of transport of any of such foodstuff from the place of production and reasonable profit on the same.

(b) the rates prevailing in the market during the period of two months immediately preceding the date of the notification, and approved by the Government such price shall not be called in question in any court.

(v) The issue of any such notification as is mentioned in the preceding sub-clause shall in no way derogate from the right or duty of the Government arranging the sale of foodstuffs to any person or class of persons at subsidized rates by way of relief."

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is

Page 2—

after line 22 add

"(3B) This Act shall not apply to any person who owns a stock of less than 40 tons."

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is

Page 2, line 20—

omit "and the average market rate so determined shall be final and shall not be called in question in any court"

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is

Page 2, line 14—

add at the end

"or the average price of the months of October, November and

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

December of 1956, whichever is lower". \*

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I shall put all the other amendments to vote.

**Shri Pattabhi Raman:** I wish to withdraw my amendment No. 9 in view of the assurance given by the hon. Minister.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker** The House does not give permission.

The question is:

Page 2, line 13—

for "three" substitute "twelve".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 1, line 9—

after "hoarding" insert:

"by any dealer".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 2—

for lines 11 to 14 substitute:

"(c) where neither clause (a) nor clause (b) applies, the price fixed by the Government from time to time".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 2—

for lines 13 and 14, substitute:

"rate prevailing in the locality from January, 1956 to December, 1956 or the market rate prevailing in the locality at the date of the sale whichever is lowest".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 2, line 13—

for "during the period of three months immediately preceding the date of the notification" substitute "in the months in which the Kharif and Rabi crops have been harvested, immediately preceding the date of the notification".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 2—

for line 19, substitute:

"which published figures by the State Government are available in respect of that locality or that State".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

\* Page 2, line 19—

after "published figures" insert:

"of the Central or State Governments as".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 2, line 20—

omit "or of a neighbouring locality".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 2—

after line 22, add:

"Provided that at places where there are no prices published by the Government, the prices prevailing as stated by the Government of the State shall prevail".

*The motion was negatived.*



Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 2—

omit lines 6 to 8

*The motion was negatived*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 2, line 14—

add at the end "or prevailing market rate whichever is less"

*The motion was negatived*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker. The question is:

Page 1, lines 12 and 13—

omit "in the locality in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (f) of sub-section (2)"

*The motion was negatived*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is

Page 1, line 17,—

omit "not exceeding three months"

*The motion was negatived.*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is

Page 2,—

for lines 1 to 22 substitute—

"(iii) Where such notification has been issued the price will be fixed by an officer authorised by the Government which shall be the lowest price recorded during six months before the notification".

*The motion was negatived.*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is

"(1) Clause 2 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted*

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

New Clause 1-A

Shri Pattabhi Raman: I beg to move:

Page 1—

after line 4, insert:

"1A Amendment of Section 2—  
In section 2 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, after clause (d), the following clause shall be added, namely—

"(e) dealer means any person carrying on the business of selling any article whether wholesale or retail"

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is

Page 1—

after line 4, insert

"1A Amendment of Section 2—  
In section 2 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, after clause (d), the following clause shall be added, namely—

"(e) dealer means any person carrying on the business of selling any article whether wholesale or retail"

*The motion was negatived*

Clause 1—(Short Title)

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I beg to move

Page 1—

after line 4 add

"(2) This Act shall remain in force for one year only"

We know that this is a measure meant to meet an emergent situation, as my hon friend has put it and as such it is a temporary measure.

Shri A. F. Jain: I never said that.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Therefore should not be made a part of the permanent statute book of the country. After reading the entire Bill I am convinced in my mind that it is neither properly worded, nor is

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

it capable of carrying the meaning assigned to it by the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister said it is not a penal law, that nobody is going to be punished. Then it is merely a pious wish. Who is going to obey this law if there is no penalty behind it. Therefore, my humble submission is that as this is meant to meet an emergency which has arisen, it should not be put permanently on the statute-book. This may remain in force only for one year. We hope that conditions will improve. According to the hon. Minister himself there is no famine in the country. I also take the same view. If there is scarcity in some area it does not follow that conditions are so bad that we should have rationing. Therefore one year's life for this measure is quite enough.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Sir, this is meant to be a permanent part of the permanent statute-book of the country, except that it will be exercised only in case of an emergency, that is when certain conditions prevail.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

Page 1—

After line 4 add:

"(2) This Act shall remain in force for one year only".

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That clause 1 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1 was added to the Bill.*

*The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed."

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** Sir, the amending measure would have spread a wave of anger and hatred against Government had there been no provision as exists in sub-section (iii) (c) of the proposed section 3A.

That provision says:

"where neither clause (a) nor clause (b) applies, the price calculated with reference to the average market rate prevailing in the locality during the period of three months immediately preceding the date of notification".

17.47 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Mr. Speaker, as you know this is harvesting season for wheat. After decontrol this was the first year when the prices had gone up to Rs. 16 per maund, which was almost near the controlled price of wheat at the time of decontrol. There have been periods in the year 1954-55 when agriculturists needed price support and it was with the greatest difficulty that the Ministry of Food and Agriculture agreed to give price support to wheat, rice and several other agricultural commodities. We were told at that time that it was not possible because there was shortage of warehousing facilities. It was argued at that time that the production had not increased to the extent that the marketable surplus was high. While we can find warehousing facilities in the interest of consumers, we were unable to find warehousing facilities in the interest of growers. I am happy the hon. Minister agreed to give price support. That was the first year when the wheat growers could fetch some price. I am sure nobody in this House has any sympathy with the hoarders and I will be the last person to have any sympathy with the hoarders of grain. We cannot create foodgrains through legislation. We cannot remove the difficulties of the country by passing fresh legislation. We can pass over the difficulties temporarily with the

help of such legislation. We shall have to put in more funds for growing food grains in the country. I am in this connection reminded of a recommendation made by the Ministers of Food and Agriculture of the various States to the Planning Commission that a provision of a sum of Rs. 100 crores be made for increasing the production of food grains. It was not agreed. But today Rs. 25 crores of subsidy could be found in the interest of the consumers. I would impress on the Minister that if the situation is to be remedied and if the Second Five-Year Plan is to

succeed he should place more funds at the disposal of the agriculturist.

Mr. Speaker: It is now 5.50 and I shall put the motion to the House.

The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

*The motion was adopted.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now stand adjourned sine die.

17.50 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned  
sine die

[Friday, 31st May, 1957]

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

| S.Q. No.          | Subject                                          | COLUMNS   |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 678.              | Damage to Rabi Crops .                           | 3097-3101 |
| 677-A             | Flood control measures in U.P. .                 | 3101-02   |
| 681.              | Tenders for landing and delivery of coal .       | 3102-03   |
| 682.              | Burma Rice .                                     | 3104-05   |
| 684.              | Development Commissioners Conference .           | 3105-10   |
| 686.              | Sugar-cane price .                               | 3110-12   |
| 687.              | Railway Headquarters at Pandu Region .           | 3112-13   |
| 688.              | Bridge over Godavari .                           | 3114      |
| 689.              | Passenger amenities on N.E. Railway. .           | 3115-17   |
| 690.              | Air Service via Gorakhpur .                      | 3117-18   |
| 691.              | Fresh water supply scheme in Kerala. .           | 3118-20   |
| 693.              | Aerodrome near Azamgarh .                        | 3120-21   |
| 695.              | Railway high school at Bilaspur .                | 3121-22   |
| 696.              | Nationalization of Railways in Rajasthan .       | 3123-25   |
| 698.              | Irrigated areas in States .                      | 3126-28   |
| 699.              | Over-bridge in Delhi .                           | 3128-30   |
| 700.              | Ammonium sulphate .                              | 3130      |
| 701.              | Trains on Sihguri-Lucknow Section .              | 3131      |
| 702.              | National water Supply and sanitation programme . | 3131-32   |
| 743.              | Hyderabad Railway Bridge Inspection Committee .  | 3132-33   |
| <b>S.N.Q. No.</b> |                                                  |           |
| 11.               | Infectious diseases hospital in Delhi .          | 3134-36   |
| 12.               | New virus disease in the Mysore State .          | 3136-37   |
| 13.               | Delegation of Indian scientists to Russia .      | 3137-39   |
| 14.               | Movement of foodgrains in Bihar .                | 3139-40   |
| 15.               | Taxation proposals .                             | 3140-42   |
| 16.               | Yellow rain near Tanjore .                       | 3143      |

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

| S.Q. No. | Subject                                            | COLUMNS |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 680.     | Kharagpur accident. .                              | 3144    |
| 683.     | Trawler incident in Kalyani Devi river. .          | 3144-45 |
| 685.     | Bridge over Narbada. .                             | 3145    |
| 692.     | Foreign exchange by sale of Indian stamps. .       | 3145-46 |
| 694.     | Ban on applications of Railway Officials. .        | 3146    |
| 697.     | Medical college at Aligarh .                       | 3147    |
| 703.     | Poona Railway Station .                            | 3147    |
| 704.     | Divisional headquarters at Khurda road .           | 3147-48 |
| 705.     | Minor ports on the West Coast. .                   | 3148    |
| 706.     | Expenditure on South Delhi Municipality. .         | 3148-49 |
| 706-A    | Holidays. .                                        | 3149    |
| 708.     | Bridge over Bial, m. rputra. .                     | 3150    |
| 709.     | Community development blocks in Orissa .           | 3150-51 |
| 710.     | Gudur-Madras railway line .                        | 3151    |
| 711.     | Postage stamps .                                   | 3151-5  |
| 712.     | Krishna pandits. .                                 | 3152    |
| 713.     | Balia dam in U.P .                                 | 3152-53 |
| 714.     | Harnessing of Assen River .                        | 3153    |
| 715.     | Petrol tank wagons. .                              | 3154    |
| 716.     | Food situation in Tripura .                        | 3154-55 |
| 717.     | Crop estimation .                                  | 3155    |
| 718.     | Medical college at Kurnool .                       | 3155-56 |
| 719.     | Construction of railway lines .                    | 3156    |
| 720.     | Provision of chairs in first class compartments. . | 3156-57 |
| 721.     | Co-operative sugar mills. .                        | 3157    |
| 723.     | Sugar production. .                                | 3157-58 |
| 724.     | Passenger amenities .                              | 3158    |
| 724-A    | National saving certificates. .                    | 3158    |
| 725.     | Fakirgram-Amingaon line .                          | 3158-59 |
| 726.     | Hostel for railway employees' children. .          | 3159    |

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO  
QUESTIONS—(contd.)

| S.Q.No. | Subject                                                        | COLUMNS |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 727.    | Nagarjunasagar project . . . . .                               | 3159    |
| 729.    | Kurduwadi-Miraj railway line. . . . .                          | 3160    |
| 730.    | G.T. Express. . . . .                                          | 3160    |
| 731.    | National highways in Uttar Pradesh. . . . .                    | 3161    |
| 732.    | Air-conditioned Janata Express. . . . .                        | 3161-62 |
| 733.    | Soil testing laboratories. . . . .                             | 3162    |
| 734.    | Vendors at Mathura Junction. . . . .                           | 3163    |
| 734-A   | Service conditions of port workers . . . . .                   | 3163    |
| 736.    | Railway freight structure Enquiry Committee . . . . .          | 3163-64 |
| 737.    | Rice milling and oil seeds crushing Enquiry Committee. . . . . | 3164-65 |
| 738.    | Ferry crafts . . . . .                                         | 3165    |
| 739.    | Co-operative rice mills. . . . .                               | 3165    |
| 740.    | Vizagapatnam-Hyderabad passenger train . . . . .               | 3166    |
| 741.    | Vanaspati . . . . .                                            | 3166    |
| 742.    | By-passes around town between Delhi and Agra. . . . .          | 3166-67 |
| S.Q.No. |                                                                |         |
| 495.    | Training of co-operative personnel . . . . .                   | 3167    |
| 496.    | Fishery . . . . .                                              | 3167-68 |
| 497.    | New railway lines in UP . . . . .                              | 3168    |
| 498.    | Waltair-Howrah passenger train . . . . .                       | 3168    |
| 499.    | Basta Post Office Building. . . . .                            | 3169    |
| 500.    | Passenger amenities at Bhadrak Railway Station. . . . .        | 3169-70 |
| 501.    | Bhadrak Sub-Post Office. . . . .                               | 3170-71 |
| 502.    | New post offices in Orissa. . . . .                            | 3171-72 |
| 503.    | Vijapur-Ransipur railway line. . . . .                         | 3172    |
| 504.    | Vijapur-Ransipur railway line. . . . .                         | 3172    |
| 505.    | Passenger amenities. . . . .                                   | 3173    |
| 506.    | Passenger amenities. . . . .                                   | 3173-74 |
| 507.    | Bridge over river Saraswati. . . . .                           | 3174-75 |
| 508.    | Passenger amenities. . . . .                                   | 3175    |
| 509.    | Export of foodgrains. . . . .                                  | 3175    |
| 510.    | Bhakra Nangal Project. . . . .                                 | 3175-76 |
| 511.    | Import of foodgrains. . . . .                                  | 3176    |
| 512.    | Railway concessions during festivals. . . . .                  | 3176-77 |
| 513.    | Tuticorin Express Accident . . . . .                           | 3177    |

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO  
QUESTIONS—(contd.)

| U.S.Q.No. | Subject                                                                 | COLUMNS |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 515.      | U.N. Children's Fund. . . . .                                           | 3177-78 |
| 516.      | Derailement of wagons at Jamnagar. . . . .                              | 3179    |
| 517.      | Railways Delegation to Japan. . . . .                                   | 3179-80 |
| 518.      | Drinking Water Scheme for Punjab . . . . .                              | 3180    |
| 519.      | Wastage of food. . . . .                                                | 3180-81 |
| 520.      | Railway line from Talgupa to Sharavathi Hydro-electric project. . . . . | 3181    |
| 521.      | Railway lines in Mysore . . . . .                                       | 3181-82 |
| 522.      | Telegraph and public call offices in Gangannagar . . . . .              | 3182    |
| 523.      | Loco and Carriage workshop, Ajmer . . . . .                             | 3182-83 |
| 524.      | Acquisition of land. . . . .                                            | 3183    |
| 525.      | Medical Council of India. . . . .                                       | 3183-84 |
| 526.      | Navigation in Ganga and Ghaghra. . . . .                                | 3184    |
| 527.      | Deep sea sampling work . . . . .                                        | 3184-85 |
| 528.      | A Ban on booking of grains to Bala station. . . . .                     | 3185    |
| 529.      | Branch post offices . . . . .                                           | 3186-87 |
| 530.      | B.C.G. . . . .                                                          | 3187    |
| 531.      | Tuberculosis patients. . . . .                                          | 3187-88 |
| 532.      | Coal transport on N.E. Railways . . . . .                               | 3188    |
| 533.      | Telegraph office in Singana . . . . .                                   | 3188-89 |
| 534.      | A Purchase of wind mills from Australia . . . . .                       | 3189    |
| 535.      | Overbridge at Amraoti Station. . . . .                                  | 3189-90 |
| 536.      | R.N.S. building at Salem junction . . . . .                             | 3190    |
| 537.      | Tarasrai-Ryam railway line. . . . .                                     | 3190-91 |
| 538.      | Electrification of Rayagada Station. . . . .                            | 3191    |
| 539.      | Railway theft. . . . .                                                  | 3191-92 |
| 540.      | Trunk telephone system. . . . .                                         | 3192-93 |
| 541.      | Bridge on rivers. . . . .                                               | 3193    |
| 542.      | Puri-Konarak road. . . . .                                              | 3193    |
| 543.      | Hyderabad-Vizagapatnam Air Service . . . . .                            | 3194    |
| 544.      | New railway lines in Andhra. . . . .                                    | 3194-95 |
| 545.      | Libraries. . . . .                                                      | 3195    |
| 546.      | Filtered water supply in rural areas. . . . .                           | 3195-96 |
| 547.      | Scholarships for Assistant Surgeons. . . . .                            | 3196    |
| 548.      | Sleepers for railways. . . . .                                          | 3196    |
| 549.      | Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee. . . . .                               | 3197    |

# WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—Contd.—

| U.S.Q.No. | Subject                                   | COLUMN    |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 548.      | Wagons for cement.                        | 3197-98   |
| 549.      | Over bridge at Naya Bazar, Dhanbad.       | 3196      |
| 550.      | Kosi embankment.                          | 3198-99   |
| 551.      | Kendrapara-Olava railway line.            | 3199      |
| 552.      | Trains on Kanpur Central Lucknow line.    | 3199      |
| 553.      | Special Police Establishment.             | 3199-3200 |
| 554.      | Kotah-Chitorgarh railway line.            | 3 00      |
| 555.      | Manmud-Nardana railway line.              | 3 00-01   |
| 556.      | Sugar recovery.                           | 3.01      |
| 557.      | Sugar mill at Palla Kalan.                | 3201      |
| 558.      | Over-bridge at Shoranoor railway station. | 3201-02   |
| 559.      | Charge-sheeting of railway employees.     | 3202      |

# OBITUARY REFERENCE . 3203

The Speaker made a reference to the passing away of Shri Prabhakaran Thampian who was a member of the old Central Legislative Assembly. Thereafter Members stood in silence for a minute as a mark of respect.

# MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT 3 03-05

The Speaker disallowed the adjournment motion given notice of by Shri Vajpayee regarding the Satyagraha campaign by Arya Samaj on the language issue in Punjab as the subject matter of the adjournment motion was not the responsibility of the Central Government.

# PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 3205-06

The following papers were laid on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Third Annual Report (1956-57) of the Organisation and Methods Division.
- (2) A copy of the Report of the Administrative Vigilance Division for the year ending 31st March, 1957.
- (3) A copy each of the four Notifications, under Section 10 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948.

# PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—Contd

COLUMN

- (4) A copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 1288 dated the 27th April, 1957, together with the Explanatory Note, under sub-section (3) of Section 28 of the Public Debt Act, 1944, making certain amendments to the Public Debt Rules, 1946.
- (5) A copy each of Directions Nos. 71A and 113A issued by the Speaker under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

# MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA —

3207-08

- (a) Secretary reported the following message from Rajya Sabha :

(i) That at its sitting held on the 30th May, 1957, Rajya Sabha had agreed without any amendment to the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill 1957 passed by Lok Sabha on the 24th May, 1957..

(ii) That at its sitting held on the 30th May, 1957, Rajya Sabha had agreed without any amendment to the Coal bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Bill, 1957, as passed by Lok Sabha on the 20th May, 1957.

(b) Secretary also reported that Rajya Sabha had concurred in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha to nominate seven members from the Rajya Sabha to the Public Accounts Committee and had intimated the names of the Members of Rajya Sabha elected to the said Committee.

# PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS 320

Dr. Gangadhar Siva presented the following petitions:

- (i) two petitions relating to the Indian Railways Act and the Rules framed thereunder.
- (ii) One petition relating to the amendment of the Indian Post Office Rules.

# REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ADOPTED

3208

Second Report was adopted.

## DRAWING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—

3209-16

In response to the five calling attention notices mentioned below against the names of the members concerned, the Minister concerned laid statements on the Table :

- |                         |                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shri Raghunath Singh.   | Statement by the Minister of Irrigation, Justice and Cooperation, U.P., on 20th May, 1957, re Low Income-Group Housing Scheme in U.P. |
| (2) Shri M. B. Thakore. | Closing down the Sayaji Jubilee Cotton and Jute Mills, Sidhpur, Gujarat.                                                              |
| (3) Shri Sanganna.      | Proposed strike of P. & T. employees.                                                                                                 |
| (4) Shri S.M. Banerjee. | Non-acceptance of salary for the month of April 1957 by the workers of No. 2 Wing I.A.F. Station, Poona.                              |
| (5) Shri Radha Raman.   | Refusal by the Delhi Administration of T. B. Association offer to construct hall for T. B. patients.                                  |

## ARREST AND CONVICTION OF MEMBERS—

3216-17

- (1) The Speaker informed Lok Sabha that he had received a telegram from the Judicial Magistrate, Agra intimating that Shri Braj Raj Singh had been taken in custody on the 30th May, 1957 under Section 143/186/228 Indian Penal Code.

## ARREST AND CONVICTION OF MEMBERS—contd.

COLUMNS

- (2) The Speaker also informed that he had received a wireless message from the District Magistrate, Etawah regarding the arrest of Shri Bahaduria on the 30th May, 1957 under Sections 447/448/188 I.P.C.
- (3) The Speaker further informed that he had received a wireless message dated the 30th May, 1957 from the District Magistrate, Kanpur intimating that Shri Awasthi had been sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment and rupees five hundred fine or in default one month's simple imprisonment for the contravention of an order under section 144 Cr. P.C.

BILL INTRODUCED . . . 3217

The Navy Bill was introduced.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION . . . 3217-48

The Minister of Finance (Shri T.T. Krishnamachari) replied to the General Discussion on the General Budget, 1957-58. The discussion was concluded.

BILL PASSED . . . 3248-3354

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) moved for the consideration of the Essential Commodities Amendment Bill. An amendment moved by Shri Mohamed Imam for circulation of the Bill for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 15 June, 1957 was withdrawn by the Leave of the House. The motion for consideration was adopted. After clause-by-clause consideration the Bill was passed.

## DAILY DIGEST

## RESUME

## OF THE FIRST SESSION OF 'SECOND LOK SABHA.

|                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION . 10th May,<br>to 31st May<br>1957.                                                                                                               | 9. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLU-<br>TIONS—<br>Part discussed . . .                                                                                                                  |
| 2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS . 17                                                                                                                                                 | 10. MOTIONS—<br>Moved . . . .<br>Adopted . . . .                                                                                                                               |
| 3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING 106 hrs.<br>HOURS . . . . 35 mrs.                                                                                                               | 11. ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS—<br>Received<br>Consent withheld by<br>Speaker . . . .                                                                                                 |
| 4. NUMBER OF MEMBERS SWORN 484                                                                                                                                             | 12. STATEMENTS MADE BY<br>MINISTERS . . . .                                                                                                                                    |
| 5. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUES-<br>TIONS ASKED—<br>Starred . . . . 731<br>Unstarred . . . . 555<br>Short Notice.. . . 16                                                          | 13. NUMBERS OF MATTERS OF<br>URGENT PUBLIC IMPORT-<br>ANCE TO WHICH ATTEN-<br>TION OF MINISTERS WAS<br>CALLED AND STATEMENTS<br>WERE MADE OR LAID ON<br>THE TABLE BY MINISTERS |
| 6. GOVERNMENT BILLS—<br>Introduced . . . . 14<br>Laid on the Table as<br>passed by Rajya Sabha. . 1<br>Passed . . . . 10<br>Pending at the end of the<br>Session . . . . 5 | 14. REPORTS OF PARLIAMENT-<br>ARY COMMITTEE PRESENT-<br>ED<br><br>Business Advisory Com-<br>mittee . . . .                                                                     |
| 7. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS—<br>Introduced . . . . 4<br>Pending at the end of the<br>Session . . . . 4                                                                       | 15. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD                                                                                                                                                   |
| 8. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS—<br>Moved . . . . 1<br>Adopted . . . . 1                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                |